THE New Politicks OF THE COURT OF FRANCE.

Under the Reign of LEWIS XIV.

WHEREIN

Are to be ſeen all his Intreagues, and his preſent Manner of Acting, in reſpect of all the Potentates of *Europe*, to ſatisfie his Ambition and Grandeur.

Made *Engliſh* from the Original Printed at *Cologne*, 1694.

LONDON,

Printed for *Henry Rhodes*, at the *Star* the corner of *Bride-lane*, in *Fleet-ſtreet*; And *John Harris* at the *Harrow* in the *Poultry*. 1695.

944.03
N42

THE Secret Intrigues OF THE COURT of *FRANCE*.

THat which we call the Policy of a State, very nearly resembles the Oeconomy of a Private Family: the Ministers and Treasury-Officers of the One, are like the Steward and Caterer in the Other. And therefore it was, that an Ancient Author made no difficulty to say, *That a Politick Court supported the State*, in like manner as Oeconomy kept up the Grandeur and good Discipline of a single House. And as there are two sorts of Oeconomy; the one Honest, and Praise-worthy, the other Mechanick and Sordid, which a Lunatick Person makes use of to pile up Riches any manner of way, thereby rendring himself odious to all Men of worth, 'tis very near the same thing with Policy, which may be also distinguish'd into two Classes, the one Lawful, the other Illegitimate. Which latter having only usurp'd the Name of Policy as Usurpation has done, conceals it self under the Appellation of Conquest. On the other side, True Policy is not only beneficial but commendable,

714463

and permitted by the Laws of God and Man. She is the Daughter of Prudence, and the Prince that makes use of her Profitably and Sincerely, wins to himself by that means, the Admiration of Foreigners, as well as the Love and Respect of his own Subjects; and frequently merits the Epithetes and Surnames of Great, and Wise. On the other side, False Policy is meerly Art, cunning, Wily Craft, or in a word downright Knavery and Cheat, always covetous of other Mens Goods, leaving no Stone unturn'd to aggrandize it self at any rate whatever, come what will come of it, and tacking according to the Proverb, *The Foxes to the Lyons Skin.* And these two different sorts of Politicks, are as two Opposite Mirrours, that openly display the Inside of Princes, and shew their vertuous or wicked Inclinations. Nor can I forbear divulging to the World that the Court of *France*, ever since the Death of *Hen.* IV. has very much studied the Practice of this same false Policy, on purpose to endeavour the Aggrandizing of her self by Cheat and Usurpation. And it may be said to have had extraordinary Success in this last Reign of *Lewis* XIV. under a false Idea of Conquest, having thereby augmented his Revenues to above two Thirds, and his Dominions above a Third Part; as might be easily prov'd, were it not visible to all his Neighbours, or if his Neighbours were not sensible of it by woful Experience. And I do farther averr, that it was almost impossible for *France* to aggrandize her self, and every way to enlarge her Dominions as now we see her Limits extended, or for her Monarch to raise himself to the present Pinacle of Grandeur, had he not made a smart use of Violence, Usurpation & Breach of Faith.

To

To which I may moreover add, the Hypocrisie and Deceit which the King of *France* has us'd in these latter times of Religion, on purpose to trample under foot and appropriate to himself the Estates of his Subjects; and the Treacherous Leagues he has made with Foreign Princes the more easily to deceive 'em, and lay hold upon favourable Opportunities to invade their Territories, when least they dream'd of any such thing, but lay reposing under the Security of a Peace; and all this to make himself Master of their Dominions, when it was not in the Power of their Allies to assist 'em. Formerly indeed the *Romans*, who were Pagans, made use of the same Maxims and the same Stratagems to grow great upon their Neighbours, and to make themselves universal Masters of the World. And now *Lewis* XIV. believes he cannot fail of obtaining the same Success in his vast Expectations by treading the same laudable and worthy Steps.

We have seen, that since the Church-Men, for most part greedy Heapers of Wealth, have intruded into the Ministry of the Court of *France*, they have instill'd into the Government Sentiments like their own; that is to say, Sentiments of Usurpation and Covetousness, and a Liberty to do whatever they pleas'd: and as it is usually seen, that a Master endeavours to bring up his Disciples in his own Sentiments, and to be of his humour; so the Cardinals of *Richlieu* and *Mazarine* inspir'd into *Lewis* XIII. and *Lewis* XIV. eager Desires to make themselves Great by Usurpation, infusing into 'em by all the ways imaginable, that a Prince was always cry'd up in his Undertakings, let 'em be good or bad, provided that they prosper'd in their Enterprizes,

because the People adore, and like the Sun-flower, turn toward the Glitter of Prosperity. That it was neither necessary nor beneficial for a King to be good, sincere or merciful, only that 'twas sufficient to appear so; in regard it was frequently dangerous to be so indeed; and for that it became a King above all things, to be always his own Master, by acting quite the contrary, when his Affairs requir'd it, whether it were to make himself Great, or for his own Honour; seeing that Men judge rather by the Eyes then by the Hands; every body having the Liberty to behold and consider the Actions of Kings, but not to handle 'em; that is, to examine and dive into 'em; those are Mysteries conceal'd, like the Oracles of the *Pagans* in times of Old. *Lewis* the XIV. is so strongly perswaded that the People are only taken with Appearances, and gaudy Shew, that he affects no more then only to appear outwardly honest, sincere and Religious; when in reality and at the bottom of his Soul there is nothing of all this in him, as has been seen by all the World, ever since his first coming to the Crown. Seeing there is no better way to judge of the Inward Heart then by the Constancy of a Mans outward Actions; then which there can be nothing more plain, if we consider the Opressions, the Exactions, the Cruelties committed during the whole Course of his Reign, as also his Usurpations upon his Neighbours. Nor can the more Moderate of his Subjects alledge any thing fairer in his Excuse, then only this, that his Design is to aggrandize himself; and that this is the surest Means to render himself formidable as well to his Friends as to his Enemies both at home and abroad. Therefore to become

become Great according to *Lewis* the Fourteenth's Method, there was a Neceſſity for him to fail of his Word and Faith, ſo ſoon as he found the Keeping of either prejudicial to Him; to break his Alliances concluded and ſolemnly ſworn with his Neighbours and neareſt Relations, ſo ſoon as an Opportunity preſented it ſelf to invade their Territories. It may be ſaid, that this Monarch has made an excellent Uſe of Cardinal *Mazarine*'s Leſſons. For that ſame Prelate being both Crafty and Cunning, and ſomewhat of a Cheat beſides, fail'd not frequently to lay before his Prince the Example of *Alexander* VI. who notwithſtanding his being the Vicar of Chriſt, never forbore to falſify his Word, when he found there was a neceſſity for it: tho' never any man promis'd things with more ſolemn Oaths, and his Deceit prov'd ſucceſsful to him: Nor was *Ferdinand*, King of *Caſtile* and *Aragon*, beholding for his Grandeur to any thing, ſo much as to his Breach of Faith. The Emperour, *Charles* V. was always wont to ſwear *By the Faith of a Man of Honour*, when he had a Deſign to act contrary to what he promis'd. This *Mazarine* maintain'd as a Maxim never to be contradicted, and that it behov'd a Soveraign to obſerve this Rule, if ever he deſign'd Grandeur and Puiſſance, never to ſtick to, or govern himſelf according to the eſtabliſh'd Laws of a Monarchy, when they agreed not with his preſent Intereſt, and the Politicks requiſite to enlarge his Power: becauſe the ſame Laws that were made in former Ages, were good and wholeſom at that time, but could not always ſo continue. As much as to ſay, that a King may break and trample over the Fundamental Law of a Realm, when they concur not with his Ambition and his

Inclination to plunder his Neighbours, and ruin his Subjects. For this reason it is, that for some Years since, we have seen *Lewis* XIV. practise all these Maxims with a vehement Swing, but with little Circumspection; consulting neither the Laws of his Kingdom, nor the Prerogatives of other Princes. However observing this Rule, never to threaten beforehand, but to execute his Design at the same time that he set forth his *Manifesto*, that his Adversary might have no time or leisure to oppose his Torrent.

Moreover, Men judge of the Inclinations of Princes by the Ministers and Great Personages that are in favour near their Persons: and the Deceas'd Prince of *Orange*, *William* the First, was wont to say in his time, with great Reason and upon solid Grounds, That a True Judgment might be given of the Natural Disposition of *Philip* II. King of *Spain* by the Cruelties which the Duke of *Alva*, his Chief Minister committed without fear of punishment in the *Low-Countries*. If it may be lawful to say the same thing of *Lewis* XIV. What Sentiment ought we to have of that Prince? If we look narrowly into the Inclinations and Proceedings of the Ministers that have serv'd him all the whole time of his Reign, to begin from *Mazarine* the first, every time we shall find 'em to have been all Birds of Prey, and most Cruel and Insatiable Blood-suckers of the People. Cardinal *Richlieu* was the First who laid the Foundations of this Policy now practis'd by the Court of *France*: For that same Minister abusing the Simplicity of *Lewis* XIII. made himself absolute Master in the Kingdom. He was naturally Violent, nor could he endure any Companion; all

People

People must submit to Him; He Exil'd, and Imprison'd; he cunningly got rid of the Baron *d'Ancre*, of Monsieur *de Thou* and *Cinqmars*; chose rather to establish the Security of his Person and his Fortune by Rigour and Violence, than to hazard either by Clemency, or by too much Complacency with those that were below'd by the King, and so he triumph'd over all, even after the Protestant Party, which was very numerous in *France*, and which he endeavour'd to oppress by all manner of ways, against the Edicts of Pacification, and ruin'd 'em all by ruining *Rochell*; which that he might the better bring to pass, he deceiv'd the *English* and *Hollanders*, who in good Policy were bound to have ventur'd all to have preserv'd that Important Place, which was another State within the State it self, and was a kind of Sanctuary and Place of Retreat for all the Malecontents of the Court. And it may be said that the Loss of that City was the Source of all the Calamities that befell *Charles* the I. King of *England*. For *France* not only rais'd the Tempest in the two Kingdoms of *England* and *Scotland*; sent Money into *England* to Kindle the Fire, and feed the Civil War, but encourag'd *Oliver* to lay hands upon the Person of the King; in hopes at that time to bring down the Power of that Formidable Monarchy by Sea, as is easie to judge by the Entertainment which the Court of *France* gave to the Princes of the Royal Family of *England* in that Conjuncture. Moreover after what a Treacherous manner did *France* act with the Old Duke of *Lorrain*, that might have an Advantage to usurp his Country. For Cardinal *Richelieu* under pretence of Friendship drew him to *Lion*, where *Lewis* the XIII. then lay with

a Powerful Army, under a false pretence, that it behov'd him to come and pay his Respects to that Monarch. Thither the Prince, suspecting nothing but honest and fair dealing, repair'd, and was receiv'd at first with Extraordinary Honour and Civility, not only by the King and the Cardinal, but by all the Grandees of the Court, who were order'd to treat him Splendidly. But that was but the Bait to draw him on: for when the poor Duke, laden with the Honours of the Court, and satisfi'd with his Kind Reception, was about to return home, he was stopp'd by the Cardinal's Order; nor could he procure his Release, but by delivering back into the hands of *France* a great part of his Territories, which afterwards occasion'd the loss of all the rest, under pretence that the Prince was an active stirring Soldier, and devoted to the House of *Austria*. But indeed, because the Policy of the Court of *France* could not brook so near her a Soveraign Prince, whose Territories were a Goad in her sides, and might serve for an Inlet into *France* out of *Germany*.

Now in regard it is the Policy of a Minister of State, to the end he may be lamented and desir'd after his Death, to justifie his Conduct in the Eyes of the People, *Richlieu* was willing to have for his Successour a Minister that should out-do him, and finish what he had begun: therefore he recommended Cardinal *Mazarine*, an *Italian* by Birth, and of mean Extraction, naturally covetous, and deceitful in whatever he undertook, covering himself with the Foxes Skin, the better to deceive others and play his own part, not caring for whatever People said of him, nor what Mischief was laid to his charge,

charge, so he could bring about his Grand Design, which was to get Money; so that all the whole time of his Ministry he was call'd *The Darling of the People*. By good luck, he came to his Ministry during the Regency of a Credulous Queen and a Young King, whom he Christen'd, that he might acquire to himself the more Respect and Veneration. It was easie for him both to imprint in the mind of this Young Prince, and instil into him Precepts according to his own Humour, which were to Sacrifice every thing to his own Interest; Honour, Word, Alliances, Edicts, Promises, Oaths, when all these Vertues were opposite to his Aggrandizement: That it behov'd a Prince that would be great, to accommodate himself to the Necessity of Affairs; that it was sufficient for a Prince to be Vertuous, when he could not dispence with being otherwise: that it was good and commendable to know what was just and honest, but not always expedient to practise it. That there were some Vices which no way hinder'd a Prince from Governing well; that *Solomon* was subject to Women, yet look'd upon to be the Greatest and Wisest of all Kings: for that there is always a Distinction to be made between the Domestick and Publick Life of a Prince, his Royal and his Private Vertues. Cardinal *Mazarine* having thus found out the Genius of his Disciple, 'twas an easie thing for him to imprint in his Mind these New Lectures of Policy, which afterwards serv'd for a Basis and Foundation to the Reign of *Lewis* XIV. who reigning with the Queen Mother, out of pure Gratitude deliver'd into the Cardinal's hands the Keys of all the Favours and Honours of his Kingdom, upheld him in

in despite of all the Princes of the Blood, and notwithstanding all the earnest Importunities of the Parliament and People, underwent all the Dangers of a Civil War for some Years; and not being able to live without the Cardinal's Presence, the King sent for him twice out of Banishment, and receiv'd him with those Honours that were no way due to him, even to the going several Leagues to meet him, and to express his excessive Joy for his Return by mutual Embraces. I shall not here enlarge upon the Authority and Power which that Italian Cardinal had in *France*; 'tis sufficient to say, That the King, during his Minority, had all the Deference and Respect for that Prelate which a Son could have for a Father, and that it was the Cardinal who only reign'd in *France*. In lieu of which, he promis'd the King and Queen, That he would make him the Greatest Monarch in *Europe*. In order whereunto, he was to do Two things. The First was, To heap up Treasure, and augment his Revenues. The Second was, To lay aside all Scruples of Conscience, when the main Concern was, the Aggrandizing his Kingdom. The first Tryal of Skill which the Cardinal made in the behalf of *France*, was during his Nunciature when the Peace was concluded at *Chiersco*, where the crafty wily Minister deceiv'd the Pope his Master, the Princes of *Italy*, and the King of *Spain*, in favour of the *French* Court; and so well satisfy'd the Duke of *Savoy*, that he wrested out of his Hands that Important Place of *Pignerol*, to deliver it into the Hands of *France*; which was an Acquisition that all the King's Money and Power could not obtain before, though he had had an aking Tooth for it a long time,

that. And this fame Cheat, and cunning piece of Knavery it was, though the Court of *France* paid for it in good Ready Money, that purchas'd him the Good-Will of all the Court of *France*, and the Friendship of Cardinal *Richlieu*; which *Mazarine* still improv'd, and kept alive by Presents which he sent him out of *Italy*, from time to time: and so well he understood to inveigle all the rest, that he was call'd into *France* in the Year 1639. whereby a little time after his arrival, the Death of Father *Joseph* the Capuchin, became the Life of *Mazarine*. This Capuchin was he who serv'd Cardinal *Richlieu* in all his Intrigues both within and without the Kingdom; and who was sent into *England*, during the Reign of *Charles* I. to sow Division, and raise a Civil War, which cost that Nation Rivers of Blood. So that the Capuchin had good reason to say, at his return out of *England*, That he had set Fire to those Sparkles which would kindle such a Flame as would not easily be extinguish'd: in Acknowledgment of which, the Court of *France* promis'd to get him a Cardinal's Cap to cover his Bald Pate. But he was not so happy as to see himself clad in Purple, Death seizing him in the Habit of a Saint of a Franciscan Order: which the Court of *France* bent all their Solicitations in favour of *Mazarine*. To which Cardinal *Richlieu* was the more willing to give his Consent, as being glad to see himself succeeded in the Ministry by a Person of no less Rank, than he was; who, though he were inferiour to him in Birth, yet was his Equal in Dignity, Both Princes of the Church; yet not without some Envy Jealousies bred between them. But the King and Queen favour'd him in Consideration of the Services of *Richlieu*, and declar'd

declar'd Devotion for the Interests of *France*; so that he was advanc'd to the Purple toward the End of the Year 1641. Immediately after his Promotion, he went to take Possession of the Principality of *Sedan*, which the two Cardinals had wrested from the House of *Bouillon* by Violence; forasmuch as that Principality border'd too near upon *France*, and also durst make Head against it, but at a time when *France* was not so powerful as now it is. 'Tis true, that the Duke of *Bouillon*, *Frederick Maurice*, who was then Sovereign of the Place, had very much contributed to the loss of it, by changing his Religion, upon his marrying the Countess of *Bergh*. For being at that time Governor of *Maestricht*, and in the Service of the States of the United Provinces, whose Protection warranted his Territories from all Assaults of *France*; yet finding himself no longer acceptable to the Prince of *Orange*, his near Kinsman, nor to the States themselves, he desir'd leave to lay down his Commission and retire to *Sedan*, there to lead a private and quiet Life, and wholly to employ himself within his Principality to the Propagation of the Roman Religion, which he had embrac'd; in which Employment he made some Progress during some Years. After which, he met with Business much more considerable, by reason of the Refuge which he gave to the Count of *Soissons*, one of the Princes of the Blood, and who was retir'd in discontent from the Court of *France*, by reason of some Quarrel with Cardinal *Richelieu*; and this Count was follow'd by the Duke of *Guise*. Now the Duke of *Bouillon* thought to have avoided all Occasion of Trouble, by giving notice to the Court of *France* of the Retreat of those two Princes: but the Cardinal, a subtle and crafty Politician,

Politician, seeing he could not hinder it, perſuaded the King to approve what he had done, till an Opportunity of Revenge preſented it ſelf, as it appear'd not long after by the King's taking the Field, in order to beſiege the City of *Sedan*. Nor had the Duke, at that time, any other way to preſerve himſelf, but by clapping up a League in all haſte with the Emperor and *Spain*, by which they were to aſſiſt him againſt *France* with Seven thouſand Men, and Two hundred thouſand Crowns in Ready-Money. But the Emperor only perform'd his Promiſe, and ſent him ſome Forces under the Conduct of General *d'Amboi*. Nevertheleſs, the Germans, together with about Four thouſand Men which the Duke of *Bouillon* had rais'd at his Charges, defeated the French Army under the Command of *Chatillon*; the Fruit of which Victory was, the Taking of *Doncheri*, not far from *Sedan*. And this lucky Beginning of the Duke made the Court of *France* begin to look about 'em, as being afraid leſt that petty War ſhould kindle a greater. Thereupon the Duke of *Brezé* was ſent the ſame way with Five and twenty thouſand Men; and the Cardinal perſuaded the King, and all the Court, to march as far as *Rethel*. But unfortunately for the Duke of *Bouillon*, *Lamboy* quitted him, with all his Men, being order'd to march to the Relief of *Aire*, which the French had beſieg'd. So that the Duke finding himſelf conſtrain'd to ſhut himſelf up within the Walls of *Sedan*, and ſeeing himſelf beſieg'd, began to think of an Accommodation, ſo much the rather, becauſe the Count of *Soiſſons*, who had been the Occaſion of the War, had ſhot himſelf in the Head with a Piſtol Bullet. This was no more then what *France* deſir'd, as having

and

at that time a War with *Spain*, several discontented Princes and Lords within the Kingdom, who waited only for an Opportunity to rise, and the Siege of *Aire* begun; uncertain therefore of Success, and having so many Irons in the Fire, has durst not venture the besieging of *Sedan*, which they were convinc'd that the Duke would defend with the last drop of his Blood; besides that he had Great Men that took his Part at Court, as not being willing that Place should fall into the King's Hands, which, upon many Occasions, serv'd 'em for a Retiring Place. Wherefore being also no less desirous to spite Cardinal *Richlieu*, who was look'd upon as the first Author of that War, they perswaded the King, who was advanc'd as far as *Mezieres*, to hearken to an Accommodation. Thereupon the Cardinal seeing it was not to be avoided, offer'd his Mediation to the Duke of *Bouillon*, to the end that the Affair passing through his Hands, the Duke might think himself beholding to him for this Kindness, though his Design were to ruine the Duke some other way. To which purpose, he made great Protestations to the Duke, who took all for Gold that glister'd; and being but a new Catholick, believ'd that whatever that same Prelate and Prince of the Church assur'd him, was sincere, and truly honest. But whatever Protestation his Eminency made, he had always a Reserve which he kept close in his Breast: and the better to cover his Design, and shew his Good-Will, he would needs enter into a Treaty, as a Security for the Duke's Sincerity, and a Gaurancy on the King's behalf, That His Majesty would perform the Agreement to the least Tittle of the Stipulation, the better to lull the Duke asleep, and draw him

him to the Court. Thereupon the Articles being sign'd on both Sides, the Duke went forthwith to pay his Respects to the King at *Mezieres*, where he was entertain'd with Court-Holy-Water, fair Words and Complements, and receiv'd by the King, the Cardinal, and all the Lords, with all the Honours imaginable due to his Dignity. The Cardinal also gave him large Demonstrations of Friendship, and made him extraordinary Promises, on purpose to engage him to have a Confidence in him, and make him believe that he had forgot the injurious *Manifesto* which the Duke had printed against him. Yet all this was nothing else but Snare and Decoy. For his Eminency told the King, in the presence of all the Court, That he could not do better then to entrust an Army under the Command of the Duke of *Bouillon*, as one that so well deserv'd the Honour, seeing that with a handful of wretched Germans he had beaten the Army of *France*; so that there was nothing which he might not well expect from his Valour and Experience, when he should once come to Head the Valour of the French. This the Duke took in good earnest, and so fell into the Snare; and though he had been forewarn'd by the Cardinal's Enemies, that the more Affection and Kindness that Minister shew'd, the less he was to be trusted; yet he was so easily wrought upon, as to accept the Command of an Army in *Italy*; and that was the very Place where the Cardinal was desirous to keep him. For being in that Post, he forgot himself to that degree, as during the Sickness of *Lewis* XIII. to give the Duke of *Orleance* a Letter of Credence to be admitted into *Sedan*, together with the Queen-Mother, and the Children of *France*, under pretence of retiring

thither

thither after the King's Death, to avoid the Oppression of the Cardinal, tho' the Count of *d'Auvergne*, who went to him in *Italy*, promis'd him with great Oaths and Imprecations, that he would never deliver the Letter, unless there should be an Absolute Necessity. But the King escap'd that Sickness, and the Cardinal having notice of every thing to the smallest Circumstance, gave him an account of every particular, and thought it a favourable Opportunity to revenge himself for what was past, and to put the Principality of *Sedan* into the Hands of *France* without the Effusion of Blood. For he seldom separated the Remembrance of an Injury and the desire of Revenge. It happen'd at the same time that the Duke of *Orleance* finding his Brother very Infirm and sickly, and believing that during the Minority of the Young King, when the Cardinal would have all the Power in his hands, he should lead but an ill life in the Court of *France*, and seeing himself expos'd to the Resentment of his Adversary, he bethought himself of making a League with the *Spaniards* by the mediation of a Gentleman, whose Name was *Fourraille*, whom he sent to *Madrid*. But the Cardinal having got an Inkling of it, sent his Secretary *Chavigni*, privately to give the King notice of it, and in the mean time he left no Stone unturn'd to discover the Contents of the Treaty that had been concluded at *Madrid*; and he set so many Engines at work, that he found a way to get a Copy of it from some Secretary to the Duke of *Orleance*. So soon as he had read it, he sent it to the King by the same *Chavigni*, and order'd him to assure his Majesty that the Copy was drawn from the Original it self; and for this same Piece it was that

Cinqmars

Cinqmarc and *du Thou* were apprehended, and that the King order'd his Brother the Duke of *Orleance* to be very narrowly watch'd, who finding it Impossible for him to make his Escape out of *France*, took a Resolution to submit himself to the King's Mercy, and implore his Pardon; and wrote a very submissive Letter to the Cardinal, which he sent him by one of his Favourites; wherein he set forth his Repentance in very moving Expressions, and his desire to be beholding for the Favour of his Reconciliation with the King to his Eminency, who willingly embrac'd the Opportunity of gaining the Duke of *Orleance*'s Friendship, and of having at his Beck an Instrument to ruine the Duke of *Bouillon*. Thereupon he made the Duke of *Orleance*'s Peace with the King, upon Condition that he should deliver into his hands the Original of the Treaty. But the King's Brother protested that he had burn'd the Original, and had only kept a Copy sign'd with his own Hand, and Counter-sign'd by the Secretary of his Commands; by vertue of which Copy both *Cinqmarc* and *de Thou* were both arraign'd, and the Fatal End they came to is well known. But to return to the Duke of *Bouillon*, you are to understand that *Fontraille*, who was sent into *Spain* to conclude the Treaty, that he might bring it the sooner to pass, and imprint a higher Opinion of the Business in the Court of *Madrid*, would needs insert the Duke of *Bouillon*'s Name in the Treaty without his Knowledge; and promis'd that he should not only ratifie it, but allow *Sedan* for a Place of Refuge; tho' the Duke never ratify'd the Treaty, nor ever caus'd his Name to be inserted; but quite the contrary had always oppos'd it, when the Duke of *Orleance*

had formerly made some Overtures to him of the same nature. However there needed no more to ruine him; so that the Cardinal dispatch'd away a Courrier forthwith into *Italy*, with Orders for seizing his Person, which was done at *Casal* by the General Officers, who commanded under him, from whence he was conducted by a numerous Convoy to the Castle of *Pierre-en-Cize*. And there it was that the Duke first understood, That he had been comprehended in the Treaty of *Madrid*, of which the Duke of *Orleance* had given him a Copy sign'd with his own Hand; and that he at the same time had discover'd the Queen's and the Duke's Design to retire to *Sedan*, upon the King's Decease. The crafty Cardinal observ'd by this Confession how much he was fear'd and dreaded, which serv'd to render him more absolute then ever, and impower'd him to revenge himself of his Enemies more loftily and more inexorably. For whatever Excuse the Duke of *Bouillon* could make, and tho' it could never be prov'd that he ever sign'd or ratify'd the Treaty, or gave any order for the inserting of his Name therein, there was no other Choice for him to make, but either to lose his Head or his Principality of *Sedan*. Which was no more then what *France* had sought a long time, and for the bringing of which to pass, there was no foul Play which the Minister had not put in Practise, no Snare that he had not laid to entrap the Innocent. The Dutchess of *Bouillon*, having notice of her Husband's Imprisonment, and of the danger he was in of his Life, sent her Sister in Law to Court, to let the Cardinal know, that if the Duke were put to death, she would deliver *Sedan* to the *Spaniards*, to which purpose she had already sent

ſent to *Bruſſells* to ſollicit their Approach to the Town. But Mademoiſelle *de Bouillon*, arriving at the Court of *France*, and underſtanding that *du Thou* had been condemn'd for only being privy to, and concealing *Cinqmarc*'s Deſign, chang'd her note, and was ſo far from delivering the Dutcheſſes Menaces to the Cardinal, according to her Inſtructions, that ſhe told the Cardinal ſhe had Orders to enter into a Negotiation, and to engage for the Life and Liberty of her Brother. This was that which the Cardinal expected, and therefore without giving her any time to recollect her ſelf, the Treaty was concluded, That the Dutcheſs ſhould deliver *Sedan* to the King of *France*, and that the Duke her Husband ſhould be put into poſſeſſion of other Lands of equal value in the Kingdom; and that at the ſame time that the French Garriſon ſhould enter the Town, the Priſoner ſhould be releas'd. Thereupon, Cardinal *Richlieu* not being able to go himſelf, ſent his Coadjutour in the Miniſtry, who took poſſeſſion of it, and ſecur'd it to all Intents and Purpoſes. Thus that Important City which had withſtood the King, fell into his Hands, partly through the ill Conduct of the Duke of *Bouillon*, but chiefly through the Snares which the Policy of *France* laid for him, ever ſince he quitted his Religion and the Service of the States. For in good Policy they ought to have preſerv'd that City which gave Protection to the Proteſtant Party.

The Death of the Cardinal happening in one and the ſame year, the Queen being declar'd Regent, and Duke of *Orleance* Chief of the Council, the Duke of *Bouillon* returnd to Court, flattering himſelf with being reſtor'd to his Dominions, conſi-

dering that his Misfortune did not befall him, but for the good Services which he was ready to have done those Two Illustrious Persons, that now sate at the Helm of State, and who had engag'd him without his Knowledge. But when he came to Court, he only found a change of the Regency, but not of the Ministry, which was still cunning and wilely: For *Mazarine*, who succeeded *Richlieu* in the Government, out-did his Predecessor. He found that the Disciple knew more then the Master; that he had a double portion of Avarice and Self-Interest; that Italian Knavery had succeeded French Refinedness, and that he had no mind to let go the Prey which he already held fast in his Gripes, and for which he had labour'd conjoyntly with his Predecessour. 'Tis true, that when the Duke of *Bouillon* first arriv'd, he receiv'd a world of Complements from the Queen, the Duke of *Orleance*, and all the Court; but when he came to talk of Business, all that Courtship vanish'd, nor could he obtain so much as Audience either of the Queen or the Duke of *Orleance*, till at length by dint of Pressing Importunity he got so much favour, that the Abbot *de la Riviere*, a Favourite of *Orleance's* was appointed to confer with him about his Pretensions; and that meerly to be ridd of him: *Bouillon* therefore seeing he could do no better, fell upon the Matter with the Abbot, and told him, That he was willing to fulfill the Treaty made with *Lewis* XIII, but that the Evacuation, the Verification in Parliament, and so many other Formalities absolutely requisite, would infallibly take up a tedious Space of several Years: therefore till all those Ceremonies were at an end, that 'twas but just that *Sedan* should be restor'd him

to

to be ſurrender'd back into the King's Hands, ſo ſoon as he ſhould be put into Poſſeſſion of the Equivalents: that conſidering the Preſent Poſture of Affairs, he foreſaw long Delays and infinite Cavils; whereas if *Sedan* were in his Hands, it would be look'd upon as the King's Buſineſs, no leſs then the Enlarging of *France* by the Acquiſition of a Soveraignty, and a City of great Strength and Importance. That if theſe Reaſons would not work upon the Queen nor Monſieur, he deſir'd the Abbot to lay before 'em, that the One or the Other might happen to dye before Things could be brought to that perfection, as to be fit to be put in Execution, which would inevitably prove the Ruine of his Family; and that they were engag'd as well in Honour as in Conſcience not to expoſe him to that Extremity. To this he added, That tho' the Queen and the Duke had the leaſt reaſon in the world to diſtruſt his Words, nevertheleſs he offer'd to give his Children in Hoſtage, or to ſubmit to whatever Precautions they deſir'd to take, for the Security of the Young King. But this was like knocking at a deaf Man's door; for the Abbot, who had his Inſtructions, told him with a great many Complements, That he had only Orders to hear him; but that he would make a faithful Report of what he had ſaid; adding with great Proteſtations, That it ſhould be none of his Fault that he had not a favourable Anſwer: but that was a thing which was never intended. So that *Bouillon* finding that the Abbot never came at him more, reſolv'd to addreſs himſelf directly to the Queen and the Duke of *Orleance*: but both the One and the Other knew ſo well how to avoid meeting him, that he could

never find an Opportunity to ſpeak to 'em. Which put him into a Rage, and caus'd him to let fall ſome hard words againſt the Queen and the Duke, as being too forgetful of what he had done for 'em. However *Bouillon*, unwilling to return Home without a poſitive Anſwer, apply'd himſelf again to the Abbot: but then he could never find the Abbot at home, his Servants having Orders ſtill to deny him whenever *Bouillon* came to ask for him. Nay, it happen'd one day, that tho' he knew that the Abbot was at home, by certain Perſons of Quality that waited in his Antichamber to ſpeak with him, yet the Abbot was ſo unmannerly as to ſend out one of his Servants to tell him bluntly in the hearing of thoſe Gentlemen, That the Abbot was gone abroad; which put the Duke of *Bouillon* into ſuch a Rage, that he bid the Servant tell his Maſter, That had it not been for the Reſpect which he bore the Duke of *Orleance*, he would have return'd him ſuch a Treatment for his Sawcineſs, that ſhould have ſtuck to him as long as he liv'd.

This Tranſport of Paſſion in the Duke made a great noiſe at Court, ſo that the Queen, and the Duke of *Orleance* were glad of this pretence to ridd themſelves of a Perſon whoſe preſence continually Reproach'd 'em with his paſt Services, and the Cardinal propos'd in Council a ſecond ſeizure of his Perſon. But *Bouillon* having notice of it underhand, took Poſt for *Turenne*, there to ſpend the Remainder of his days, having loſt not only the Important City of *Sedan*, but the promis'd Equivalent beſides. Nor does the Court of *France* do any thing more for the Family of *Bouillon*, then only lull 'em aſleep with Cardinals Caps and Benefices of

the

the ſame value. Thus we ſend Trifles to the *Indians*, and bring away their Gold and Silver.

I would fain have the French Emiſſaries tell me what reaſon the Moſt Chriſtian King had to make himſelf Maſter of the Principality of *Orange*, to beat down the Fortifications of the Caſtle in the year 1667, when the Sovereign was under Age, and afterwards utterly to demoliſh the Caſtle and Walls of the City, and not content with that ſame Deſolation, to ſollicite the Corporations to ſubmit themſelves to the King, threatning, if they refus'd, to burn and totally ruine the Inhabitants, as afterwards the French Forces did, notwithſtanding their Independant Sovereignty. I am perſwaded the beſt reaſon thoſe Emiſſaries can give, is becauſe the Policy of *France* cannot brook a Foreign Sovereignty within her Dominions: and ſo it was the Intereſt of the Court to make themſelves Maſters of it, before the Sovereign was in a Condition to withſtand their Power, by means of his Friends and Confederates: and all the while they pretended that they had done the Prince of *Orange* a ſignal Piece of Service, becauſe they had ſpar'd him the Expence of a Garriſon. But if ſuch be the Charity of the Moſt Chriſtian King, what may we expect from his Severity?

Without Queſtion the ſame Spirit it was that inſpir'd *France* to ſeize upon *Burgundy* and *Franche Comté*, without any pretence of Claim, after the *Pyrenæan* Treaty, and without any other reaſon, but becauſe *Spain* being weak, was not able to defend her ſelf, and becauſe it is really the Court of *France* to aggrandize her ſelf ſo ſoon as ſhe finds an Opportunity, without any reſpect to Treaties or Alliances.

And it may be ſaid, that the Miniſtry of *Mazarine* was a continu'd Chain of Oppreſſions, and that he made it his Study all his Life-time to extinguiſh the Nobility of *France* by all the ways imaginable, whether right or wrong: tho' he were cunning enough to ſupport 'em during the Troubles which happen'd in the Kingdom during the reigning King's Minority.

But ſo ſoon as he had manag'd 'em, ſo ſoon as he had humbled their Power by ruining 'em: for he who deprives a Prince of Money, takes from him the Soul of Authority; the Princes of the Blood did nothing but cry out and openly reproach the Court, that ſhe was full of nothing but Craft, Artifice and juggling Tricks to abuſe the People and the Confederates; but they might cry as loud as they pleas'd, the Miniſtry went its own way, and the Cardinal let 'em ſay what they pleas'd, provided he did his own buſineſs. For it may be ſaid of him, that his Tongue bely'd his Heart, and that his Countenance quite differ'd from his inward Thoughts. He was often wont to ſay, that the *French* were naturally Turbulent, given to Novelty, and prone to Sedition, and that the Court was full of Reſtleſs Spirits. Which was the Reaſon that he always endeavour'd to cut 'em out Employment without the Kingdom. But in regard he had no reaſon to be ſatisfy'd with the People, he was the Inventor of the greateſt part of the Taxes now raging in *France*, the Father of the Publicans and Toll-gatherers. He ſuck'd the Blood of the Subjects, in imitation of the Grand Signior, for the Support of the Soldiery, preferr'd before the People, at the Expence of the People, and tho' it ſhould be to their utter Ruin; to

the

the end he might be able to quell 'em, when ever they ſhould be inclin'd to Mutiny and Inſurrection; Inſinuating into the Young King, that the Preſervation of his Crown depended upon his Soldiers; as heretofore the *German* Legions vaunted to hold the Empire in their Hands. And in purſuance of that Maxim we have ſeen, that during this Reign, the Court of *France* has practis'd this Leſſon, which has ruin'd her People, that ſhe has impoveriſh'd her Subjects, depriv'd the Nobility of their Privileges, and all this meerly by keeping great Armies on foot, to ſerve her at all times with both Hands to ruin the People, when ever they went about to ſhake off or complain of the Exceſſive Taxes and Impoſts with which they are daily overwhelm'd; to chaſtize the Parliaments when they refus'd to verifie the Edicts and Impoſitions which the King ſends to 'em: as alſo that ſhe may have her Legions always ready to invade the Dominions of her Neighbours, when they leaſt dream of any ſuch Acts of Hoſtility; or are otherwiſe employ'd, relying upon the Faith of Treaties. As we have ſeen how that after the Peace of *Nimeghen*, when *France* finding her Treaſures quite exhauſted, and her numerous Armies ruin'd by Sickneſs & Hardſhips, was conſtrain'd to make freſh Proviſion, fearing a Change of Fortune, as ſhe had already felt at the Battel of St. *Dennis*. For this reaſon ſhe ſought Peace to break the Union, and obtain'd it in deſpite of thoſe who well foreſaw that *France* would no longer keep it after ſhe had once recover'd Breath, or that ſhe found a Propitious Opportunity to break it. For ſince the King of *France* falſify'd his Oath to obſerve the *Pyrenean* Peace, ſo ſolemnly ſworn upon the Altar, Sincerity

rity is fled from the Court of *France*, and return'd to Heaven, from whence it deſcended, and Corruption has taken the Place of Juſtice and Integrity. In regard the Miniſtry of *France* was only meditated to aggrandize the King. And therefore the deceaſed Sieur *de Colbert*, Chief Miniſter, never ſcrupled to aſſert, That the King might break and make Laws at his own pleaſure; Privileges being Chimera's odious and offenſive to it, and that Law was only the Inclination, Reputation and Authority of the Prince.

When the King of *France* has a mind to make himſelf Maſter of a Country, or only of a ſingle Town, he never conſiders the Outward Situation, but the Inward Condition of it; by whom it is govern'd, who defends it; and the Louidores are moſt commonly the Cannons with which he attacks it. And therefore *Pompone*, formerly Embaſſadour at the Court of *Sweden*, had in ſome meaſure good Reaſon to ſay, that *France* with her Money would always do what ſhe pleas'd; and that it was by means of that Metal, that ſhe was at that time become Miſtreſs of his *Swediſh* Majeſty's Cabinet, and that ſhe became Miſtreſs of ſo many Places after the Peace of *Nimeghen*, under pretence of Appendences and Dependences, of which a great Volume might be made. This is a Truth not to be deny'd, ſince we have ſeen it with our Eyes, and that we ſtill behold the Inhabitants of thoſe Places groaning under the ſevere Servitude of the Deſpotick Government of *France*. But in regard that Uſurpation cannot always long ſubſiſt, and for that ſo many Princes are at laſt awaken'd from their Oppreſſion, the Court of *France* finding her ſelf very much embar-

raſs'd

rais'd to preserve what she has usurp'd since the Peace of *Nimeghen*, all her Policy could find out no better Expedient then to propose a Truce while the Emperour and the Empire were engag'd in a War against the *Turk*.

The Court of *France* had two Prospects in desiring this Truce. The first, That in detaining all the Places of which she had made her self Mistress, she at the same time lull'd asleep the Court of *Vienna* on the *Rhine* side, that she might oblige the Emperour to continue the War with the Grand Signior. Secondly, Not to observe the Truce any longer then till one or other of the Two Empires were reduc'd to a Low Condition. Had it been the Emperour's misfortune to have lost *Vienna*, then the Business was concerted and decreed, That the King of *France* was to have invaded the Empire with a powerful Army, and to have been proclaim'd Emperour with a high hand. On the Other side, if the *Turks* were beaten, he was to declare War against the Emperour, to prevent him from growing too great by his Conquests. But the latter falling out for the good of *Christendom*, presently *France* without any regard had to Truces or Alliances, openly attacqu'd *Philipsburgh*, carry'd it, and afterwards march'd with his Army into the *Palatinate* which he over-ran with Fire and Sword, and by Violence, and Conflagrations, got sure footing all along the Banks of the *Rhine*, where we to this day behold the sad and deplorable Remainders of the Rage and Fury of the *French* Armies. However in regard that Violence never wants a Pretence, and that the most Impious Actions veil themselves in like manner with some Outward Appearances;

the

the King of *France* to justifie himself before all the World, out of a kind of Generosity pretends to declare the Reasons why he was constrain'd to resume Hostile Arms, to the end he might perswade all *Christendom* of his sincere Intentions to establish the publick Repose, while his Soldiers in all Places ruin'd and burnt whole Provinces, and carry'd away the Goods and Cattel of the Poor Inhabitants.

To this purpose the Most Christian King follows his begun Hostilities with a *Manifesto*, wherein the Principal Reasons that *France* alledges to cover her Breach of Faith, are first, That she was well inform'd that so soon as the Emperour should have made a Peace with the *Turk*, he had resolv'd to bend all his whole Force upon the *Rhine* against *France*. To which I shall answer hereafter in Particular: but in general thus much is to be said, that the Most Christian King, after he had broken the Truce, desir'd to make a Peace upon two Conditions. First, That the Truce for Twenty Years might be chang'd into a Perpetual Peace: and Secondly, That the Cardinal *de Furstenbergh* might be put into the Possession of the Electorate of *Cologne*; and that afterwards the King would endeavour to bring the Cardinal and the Chapter to such Accommodations as should be propos'd for the Satisfaction of Prince *Clement* of *Bavaria*; that is to say, to cause him to be declar'd Coadjutour to the said Electorate.

As to the first point the Politicks of the Court of *France* were very fine Spun and extreamly Crafty; seeing that while the Emperour and the Empire were engag'd against the *Turks*, it was the proper time

time for her to appropriate to her ſelf all the Places, Lands and Signiories which by the Truce were not left to the enjoyment of *France* but for Twenty years, of which three were expir'd, and which the King was fully perſwaded in his Conſcience that he could not juſtly keep, but muſt be forc'd to reſtore at the Expiration of the Truce.

As for the Poſſeſſion of *Cologne* by the Cardinal of *Furſtenbergh*, (the detaining of which from the ſaid Cardinal was another ſpecious Pretence for his reſuming Arms) all *Europe* is ſufficiently acquainted with the Engaging Reaſon which the Moſt Chriſtian King had to make himſelf Maſter of that Archbiſhoprick: ſeeing the Cardinal and the King were all one, and ſo by means of that Poſſeſſion, the King of *France* had one Foot in the Empire, and upon the Territories adjoyning, belonging either to the States of the United Provinces, or the *Palatine* and *Brandenburgh* Electors. But becauſe it will be a difficult matter for us to treat otherwiſe then confuſedly of the Policy of *France* in general, we ſhall deſcend to Particulars, thereby to render it more Intelligible, beginning with the Holy See.

The Kings of *France* have always held themſelves highly honour'd with the Title of Eldeſt Sons of the Church, and would have made War upon any one that ſhould have ventur'd to diſpute that Title with 'em. In like manner, they have all along given Marks of their Filial Obedience, and a devout ſubmiſſion to what ever came from the Holy See. And to have ſeen *Lewis* XIV. perſecute the *Huguenots* in *France*, there is no body but would have ſworn that he had been the moſt Zealous Catholick in the world. Nevertheleſs we have ſeen

the

the contrary, and that what he has done in reference to the *Proteſtants*, was only to ward off the Accuſations that might have been charg'd upon him for openly oppoſing the Holy See, while he affronted, as all the world knows he openly did, Pope *Innocent* XI. only becauſe the Holy Father would not give way to his Uſurpation of the Regale in *France*; which produc'd the Aſſembly of ſome Prelates of the *French* Clergy in the Year 1682. wherein the Archbiſhop of *Paris* who preſided there, being flatter'd in caſe of a Rupture, with the hopes of being Patriarch of the Kingdom, or in caſe of an Accommodation, with the expectation of a Cardinals Cap, got all the Prelates who were preſent at the Aſſembly, to degrade the Papal Authority, and of a Univerſal Pontiff, to make him a Simple Biſhop, ſubjected to Councils. And the King conſtrain'd all the Preachers in the Kingdom, and Rectors of Univerſities to declaim and teach a Doctrine in Oppoſition to the Authority of the Pontiff Nay, the Buſineſs went ſo high, that the Court of *France* undertook to govern *Rome* it ſelf, in oppoſing the Suppreſſion of the Franchiſes of Embaſſadours Quarters in *Rome*; which indeed were no more then a Sanctuary for Robbers and Bankrupts. Moreover, the King of *France*, that he might remain peaceable Poſſeſſour of the Regale, went about to ſet a foot an Old Pretenſion of the Duke of *Parma* to the States of *Caſtro*, and *Ronciglione*, ſuppoſing 'em Guarranties only of the Treaty of *Piſa*, which was a Pretence to ſeize upon the City and Country of *Avignon*, which the Court of *France* had for a long time look'd upon as an Eſtate that lay convenient for her, and only ſought an Opportunity to detain

it,

it, without being oblig'd to make Reſtitution; and which had taken effect, had not *Innocent* the XI. been a quiet and peaceable Pontiff, ſuffering with a Chriſtian Patience while he liv'd, all the Affronts of the Court of *France*, referring the Revenge of 'em, as he was often wont to ſay, to his *Crucify'd Saviour*; and to him it was, that the Holy Father appeal'd, when *France* ſent him a Copy of the Extract of the Regiſters of the Parliament of *Paris*, in the enſuing Words.

'This day the King's Advocate General coming 'into the *Chamber of Vacations*, and declaring, That the 'Matters of Fact explain'd by the Letter which the 'King wrote to Cardinal *d'Eſtrees* the 6th. of this 'Month, having oblig'd his Majeſty to let our Ho'ly Father the Pope know, That for the future he 'could not but look upon him as a Prince engag'd 'with his Enemies, conſequently that he could not 'acknowledge him for a Judge of every thing that 'concern'd his Majeſty's Intereſts, the King's Ad'vocate General thought it his Duty, at the ſame 'time to take the Precautions eſtabliſh'd by the Law, 'practis'd upon ſeveral Occaſions, and grounded 'upon the Opinions of the *Italian* Canoniſts them'ſelves, to hinder his Holineſs from pronouncing 'Effectual and Regular Judgments upon theſe Ma'ters. To which purpoſe, he has put in to a Uni'verſal Council an Appeal Extrajudicial, as to all Pro'ceedings of his Holineſs at preſent, or for the Future; 'and as to all Sentences which he may have given, 'or hereafter pronounce, to the Prejudice of the 'King, or the Prerogatives of his Crown, or of his 'Majeſty's Subjects. Of all which, the Reſpect 'which he owes the Crown, has oblig'd him to

'come

'come and give the Court an Account, and pre-
'sent to their view the Act which he has made,
'wherein he cannot but acknowledge the Piety,
'Wisdom and Moderation of the King in this par-
'ticular, which seem to have extinguish'd in the
'Person of the King, those Passions that most ve-
'hemently agitate other Men. He hopes that the
'Court will approve his Conduct, and assures him-
'self that they will both zealously and faithfully use
'all the Authority with which it has pleas'd the King
'to invest 'em, to maintain the Respect which is due
'to his Majesty, and to preserve the Prerogatives of
'his Crown, the Tranquillity of his Subjects, and the
'Liberties which are not only particular to the
'*Gallican* Church, but which she has preserv'd with
'more Learning and Vigour then any other. Which
'things being consider'd, the Chamber Ordains,

'That the said Act of Appeal be Register'd in
'the Registers Office, that recourse may be had to
'it, as occasion serves, and that Thanks be return'd
'to the King for ordering his Advocate-General to
'proceed according to the Usual Practise upon the
'same Occasions, and that the First President do
'assure the King in the Name of the whole Society
'of their Devotion to his sacred Person and his Ser-
'vice; and that they will at all times make use of
'that Authority which the King has conferr'd up-
'on 'em, to support the Prerogatives of the Crown,
'the Liberties of the Kingdom, and the Repose of
'his Subjects.

'It was also further added by M. *Harlay*, the
'King's Counsellor in his Council of State, and his
'Advocate-General, That the Reputation and Piety
'of our Holy Father *Innocent* XI. causing his Ma-
'jesty

'jesty to rejoice at his Exaltation to the Pontificate, 'his Majesty endeavour'd to close with his Holiness, 'in order to a unanimous Care of what ever might 'be for the Glory and Service of God.

'That his desires and the Progresses he made in or-'der to such a Pious Design, not having had that 'Success which he expected, the King however still 'continu'd on his part to employ the Power which 'God has put into his hands for the preservation of 'the Purity of the Faith in his Kingdom, and to bring 'back to the Bosom of the Church a Great Number 'of Children that are gone astray, as also to afford 'the Church all the Protection, which she could ex-'pect from the Authority of a Great King: his Ma-'jesty also has edified by his Example, and instructed 'all his Subjects by his particular Piety.

'Nevertheless, our Holy Father the Pope, to 'whom so many wonderful Vertues and Actions 'ought to have render'd the Person of the King so 'dear, has with great heat embrac'd the Com-'plaint of the two Bishops about the Right of the 'Regale; and his Holiness at the same time rejected 'the Testimonies of all the rest of the Prelates of 'the Kingdom, touching the Favours they have 'receiv'd from the King in that particular to the 'Prejudice of his Prerogatives.

'He went about to take from the King's Em-'bassadours at *Rome* the Franchises which they en-'joy'd, even under his Pontificate, in a City where 'it became the Gratitude of the Popes to have pre-'serv'd to our Kings, more singular Marks of that 'Sovereignty, of which they formerly despoil'd 'themselves, to enrich the Holy See.

'Our Holy Father has also look'd upon as a dan-'gerous and suspected Doctrine, the Declaration

'which the Assembly of the Clergy made in the 'Year 1682. of their Opinions concerning Eccle-'siastical Power; at such a Conjuncture too, when 'some of his Predecessours would rather have been 'banish'd to the Extremities of the Earth, then 'have suffer'd so many New Converts.

'He refus'd his Bulls to several Eccleſiasticks no-'minated by the King to supply the vacant Churches 'in his Kingdom.

'The partial Behaviour of our Holy Father in 'reference to the Archbishoprick of *Cologne*; his 'Resolute Refusal to acknowledge or give Audi-'ence to the King's Ambassadour at that Conjun-'cture; but thundering out Anathema's against him, 'and Interdicting him from St. *Lewis*'s Church in '*Rome*, will perpetuate an Example almost Incre-'dible to Posterity of the King's Zeal for Religion, 'and his desire to preserve the Peace of *Christendom*, 'and of the Pope's proceedings so contrary to the 'Obligations of the Place which he supplies.

'Wherefore seeing His Holiness stops his Ears 'to all the King's most just Complaints, we are 'constrain'd at length to defend our selves, and to 'maintain the Dignity of the Crown, and the Re-'pose of the King's Subjects by the Rules of Justice, 'at a time that his Majesty does the same, with so 'much glory, by the Puissance of his Armes.

'Thereupon the King's said Advocate-General, 'having first obtain'd the King's permission, de-'clares, That he is Appellant in the King's behalf, and 'in behalf of all his Subjects to a Universal Council, 'which His Holiness shall be pleas'd to call in due 'and Canonical Form, *&c.* Protesting in the mean 'time in the Name and by the Express Command

'of

'of the King, that 'tis his Intention to remain 'inviolably devoted to the Holy See as the true 'Center of the Church's Unity, *&c.* And ſo ſoon 'as our Holy Father, being better inform'd, ſhall 'ſhew the Equity, the Sentiments and Partiality of 'a Judge and common Father, his Majeſty will 'pay to his Perſon the ſame Filial Reſpect, as he 'did before; and from which nothing but the ill 'Conduct of his Holineſs cauſes him to abſtain.

After the Court of *France* had put theſe unheard-of Affronts upon the Holy See, and thus debas'd the Authority of the Sovereign Pontiff, inſtead of making uſe of thoſe means which the Catholick Church and Councils have put into his Hands to bring back Princes and People to their Chriſtian Duty, the Pope out of a peculiar Fund of Charity and Piety, contented himſelf with making appear to all the World, the Juſtice of his Proceedings and the Injuſtice of the *French* Court, declaring all along, that he was perſwaded that the Truth of Affairs had never been truly repreſented to the King of *France*; only that the Artifices and Paſſions of thoſe who are no Lovers of Peace had infus'd into him an Idea altogether different. Otherwiſe that it was never to be believ'd that the King would have harbour'd in his Mind thoſe Injurious Sentiments contain'd in Cardinal *d'Eſtree*'s Letter: his Holineſs having never fail'd to ſhew himſelf a true Father to all Catholicks, but more particularly to *France*; who upon ſeveral Occaſions had receiv'd various Teſtimonies of his Indulgence and Eſteem; but inſtead of being repay'd with Grateful Acknowledgment, his Holineſs had been expos'd to moſt heinous Injuries

and Affronts not only offer'd to his Perſon but the Holy See, by extending the Regale to above half the the Churches in *France* that are no way ſubject to it; but by the Second General Council of *Lion*, by preſcription of almoſt 400 Years. by the Teſtimonies and Evidences of Edicts of ſeveral Kings, Decrees of Parliament, and Regiſters of the Chamber of Accounts, as alſo by the Opinion of the moſt celebrated French Lawyers, ought to be exempted from it.

The Pope loudly complain'd of the Violence done to the Convents of the *Carognes* and *Urbaniſtes*; and that, only for applying themſelves to the Holy See, in Oppoſition to an Invaſion of their Privileges, and the Canonical Rules of their Orders, which imports, That Abbots and Superiours ought to be Elective, and continue for three Years together. In contempt of which, the King had introduc'd Abbots of his own Nomination. Beſides the Rending away of Five Abbies, without the conſent of the Apoſtolick See, to erect a Commandery, and applying to Other uſes the Revenues poſſeſs'd by ſeveral Monks and Nuns, according to the Will of the Donours.

But that which was more enormous, was the King's Prohibiting the Biſhops to have any Recourſe to the Pope, according to their Duty and the Cuſtom of all Times, to ask his Counſel in matter of Religion; as alſo in reference to what concern'd Prince *Clement* of *Bavaria*: tho' in granting him the Eligibility for three Churches that were Legally poſſeſs'd by the deceas'd Electour of *Cologne*, all *Chriſtendom* ſaw that the Pope had no other Aim then the Publick Good. For beſides the high Va-

lue

lue which it behov'd him to have for that Illuſtrious Houſe, the Merits of the Electour his Brother, who had ſo glorioufly defended *Chriſtendom* againſt the Invaſion of the *Turks*, his Holineſs had done nothing in that particular, but only imitated the Liberality of his Predeceſſours, who conferr'd the like and greater Favours alſo upon Perſons much Inferiour in Birth, Age and Merit, then Prince *Clement*, and that too at the Requeſt of the Kings of *France*.

And for the Bull granted to Prince *Clement*, the Pope could not be accus'd of any Injuſtice for ſo doing, ſince that Affair was exactly and ſeriouſly examin'd in a Conſiſtorial Congregation at *Rome*. Beſides that the King of *France* had neither any Reaſon nor Right to intermeddle in that Affair, ſince it was a Buſineſs that only related to a *German* Archbiſhoprick, and an Electour of the Empire, which no way concern'd *France* either directly or indirectly, but the Pope only in reſpect of Apoſtolick Confirmation, and the Emperour, as to the Inveſtiture of the Pincipality in admitting him into the Electoral College, to which belongs the Right of Electing a new Emperour, and which has a very great Sway in managing the Affairs of the whole Empire. So that the Pretence for War which *France* lays hold on from the Proceedings at *Cologne* is to be imputed to the King's Paſſion, and his own Intereſt.

After what paſt in the Aſſembly of ſome Part of the Clergy at *Paris*, where among other things, the King caus'd the Regale to be adjudg'd his Right, notwithſtanding the Appeal of the Biſhops of *Aleth* and *Pamiſe*, to the Pope; and the Propoſitions ſo injurious to the Apoſtolick See, ſupported by Royal

Edicts, enjoyning every Body to receive and publickly profeſs and teach 'em in ſuch a manner as was never yet practis'd, His Holineſs had great Reaſon to refuſe his Bulls to the Eccleſiaſticks nominated by the King to ſupply the vacant Biſhopricks, becauſe they were preſent at the ſaid Aſſembly of 1682. and there openly declar'd themſelves Enemies of the Apoſtolick See; and for that the Canon Law, and the Agreement made with *France*, that the Pope ſhould be judge of the Capacity of the Perſons nominated, prove moreover, That the ſaid Eccleſiaſticks nomianted by the King, were not Perſons proper to be entruſted with the Inſtruction of the People, but abſolutely addicted to their pleaſures, and their worldly Intereſts, ſeeing that they never ſcrupl'd to revolt againſt their Spiritual Chief, and to betray the Liberty and Privileges of the Church, to the end they might gain the King's Favour, and augment their Temporal Means. Upon this, the Court of *France* being deſirous to vex the Pope, made choice of the Marquis of *Lovardin* for his Embaſſadour to *Rome*, becauſe he was a Known Enemy of the Apoſtolick See, and was both able and willing to affront and moleſt his Holineſs. No wonder then if he never had Audience of the Pope, ſeeing that according to the General Rule, no Miniſter ſhould be ſent to a Soveraign Prince, but ſuch a one as is acceptable to the Prince with whom he is to negotiate: beſides that it is not ſufficient for a perſon to be ſent by a Prince, to entitle him to the Prerogatives of an Embaſſadour, but according to the Laws of Nations, he muſt be acknowledg'd for ſuch a one by the Soveraign to whom that Miniſter is ſent. Therefore the Court of *France* had

no

no reaſon to complain that the Pope refus'd to give Audience to the Marquis. Nor indeed would any Soveraign have ſuffer'd the Marquis, as he did, to enter *Rome* with Armed Force, as it were to deprive him of one Part of his Sovereignty, and on purpoſe to affront him after ſuch a manner, unheard of even among *Barbarians* themſelves.

'Tis obſervable that when *France* has any occaſion to court the Favour of the Holy See, ſhe ſends Prelates, Cardinals and Biſhops for her Embaſſadours; in regard it is a Thing both decent and becoming Eccleſiaſticks to be ſubmiſſive to the Pope; beſides that they are allow'd Admittance, when Seculars are excluded. But when *France* has a mind to affront the See, ſhe ſends a Lawyer or a Sword-man, who neither depends upon the Pope, nor expects any Kindneſs from him, and who dares ruffle him ſtoutly, when it is to promote the Intereſts of *France*. But *France* ſeeing the Pontiff inflexible, and that he was not to be gain'd either by his Nephew nor by the Cardinals that were moſt Intimate with him, reſolv'd either to rid him out of the world or to wait for his Death. But Old Age ſparing *France* the Labour of her firſt deſign, he was no ſooner dead, but *France* began her old Cuſtom of making Parties, and ſcattering her Louidores up and down *Rome*, to purchaſe a Pope of her own Faction; and the Lot fell upon a *Venetian*, *Ottoboni*, who took upon him the Name of *Alexander* VIII. *France* thought him her Friend, and attributed the whole Glory of his Election to her ſelf. But ſhe found him to be a *Venetian*, that is to ſay, one that conceal'd his real Sentiments as long as he liv'd, and never declar'd himſelf till he came to lie upon his Death-Bed; but

then he did it in ſuch a Manner as was no way for the Advantage of *France*. Now in regard he was very Old, and deſirous to make the beſt of thoſe few Years he had to live, to raiſe the Fortune of his Family, the *French* Miniſters fail'd not to be liberal of their inchanting Golden Philters, to allure his Kindred into the Intereſts of the *French* Court. But how willing ſoever, or how Importunate to Oblige their Uncle to do ſomething in favour of the King, they could never procure from him any thing more, but only that while he held the Pontificate he did *France* neither good nor harm. However, the *Italians* ſay this of him, That he did like the Swan, that is, he Sung a little before his Death. Nevertheleſs *France* ſuffer'd patiently that petty Mortification, and the loſs of all her Preſents to the Family of the *Ottoboni*, in hopes to have at length a Pontiff more favourable to her Purpoſes. At laſt after much canvaſſing, moſt Voices were for a Neopolitan, of the Family of *Pignatelli*, whom the Cardinals of the *French* Faction would not exclude, upon his promiſe to the *French* Cardinals that the *French* Court ſhould have no reaſon to be diſſatisfy'd with his Pontificate. But being elected he forgot the Promiſes he had made, the rather becauſe the Imperial and Spaniſh Embaſſadours diſſwaded him, as much as lay in their Power, from the obſervance of 'em. The Court of *France* therefore finding that they had to do with one that was not leſs weak in Mind then infirm in Body, preſs'd it upon him that he would occaſion the damnation of a great number of People that were without Paſtours, if he perſiſted in the Refuſal of his Bulls to the Biſhops of *France*, who were preſent at the Aſſembly

ſembly of the Clergy in the Year 1682. And at the ſame time the *French* Cardinals, according to their Inſtructions, gave the Pontiff to underſtand, that a War was very near breaking out in *Italy*, and that he would be anſwerable for the Blood that ſhould be ſpilt; ſeeing the Moſt Chriſtian King's Patience was at an end, and that moſt certainly he would withdraw himſelf from his Obedience to the See of *Rome*, and ſet up a Patriarch in his own Kingdom, and thereby retain ſeveral Millions that went every year to *Rome*. Thereupon, thoſe Fears that uſually ſeize People ſuperannuated, and the Delicacy of Conſcience without any neceſſity of a Pontiff, made him determine to ſatisfie the Court of *France*, upon frivolous Promiſes that the Biſhops ſhould ſubmit, tho' to the prejudice of the Holy See; ſince the King retracted nothing of what he had done publickly againſt the Authority of the Pontiffs and the Religion of the See, and for that the Regiſters of the Parliament of *Paris* (containing the Injurious Appeal of the King's Advocate-General) ſtill remain upon Record, and for that *France* will one day revive it again, when ſhe finds a favourable Opportunity to humble the Court of *Rome*.

Neither the Pope nor the Holy See are to judge of the Catholicity of *Lewis* XIV. or his Court by the Paſſion which he has ſhown in perſecuting the *Huguenots* within his Kingdom. So far from that, ſeeing that while the French Monarch perſecuted the *Huguenots* in his own Realm, and deſtroy'd their Churches and their Exerciſes, he ſuccour'd Count *Teckeli*, the Head of the ſame Sect, that were revolted from their Soveraign in *Hungary*: and the Court of *France* was not only more cloſely Ally'd

for

for his ſake with the *Ottoman* Port, to which he alſo gave conſiderable Aſſiſtance, but made Vows for the Proſperity of the *Mahometans*, and repair'd their Moſques even as far as *Vienna* it ſelf. Moreover, I have frequently heard the Director of my Conſcience ſay, and have heard ſeveral of the queint Doctors of the *Sorbonne* preach, that the Fruits of the Chriſtian Religion were Charity, and that he who was void of it could not be a True Catholick; that Charity was a Vertue which produc'd a Patient Spirit, that it was benign, that it was not covetous of other mens Goods, nor ſought its own advantages; that it neither commits Injuſtice nor poſſeſſes any thing unjuſtly got: that it endures every thing, believes every thing, bears with every thing; never carries it ſelf inſolently or diſhoneſtly. This is the Character of a True Chriſtian, according to the Learned. Now if the Pope finds but one of theſe Vertues in the King of *France*, I mean that Sincerity which Pope *Gregory* requir'd from a true Catholick, which conſiſts in fulfilling by our Actions what we have promis'd in Word: in that caſe I agree, that the Pope may not only embrace him as his Eldeſt Son, but canonize him after his Death, and I will be the firſt that will pay my Homage to the Great St. *Lewis*. If it be enquir'd, From whence this way of proceeding ariſes, ſo different and irregular in reference to the Holy See, more eſpecially in a King who adorns himſelf with the Title of Moſt Chriſtian; I anſwer, that 'tis from hence, becauſe that whatever he took in hand was for the Service of that Great and Ambitious Deſign which aim'd at nothing leſs then to be the Maſter of all *Europe*. To which purpoſe he had it in view,

by

by the Perſecution of the Religionaries of his Kingdom to acquire to himſelf the Suffrages, the Eſteem, the Aſſiſtance of all the *Roman Catholicks*, in the midſt of thoſe great Deſigns which he had to invade the Empire by means of that Succour which he gave the *Turk*. There is nothing makes the King of *France* ſo ſick at heart, as the Proſperity of the Emperour. He would willingly make War againſt Heaven, becauſe God did not give him all the Earth to himſelf, or at leaſt becauſe he thinks his Neighbour has the better ſhare, and poſſeſſes the more lovely part. For this Reaſon you ſee that *France* is always upon the Enquiry; Her Emiſſaries continually inform themſelves what Territories, what Splendour others enjoy, that their Monarch may have an Opportunity to fall upon This or t'Other, or Both together. Envious Perſons are as it were the Animated Skeletons of Demons, that are nouriſh'd only by their own Torments. *Agrippina*, the Mother of *Nero*, was wont to ſay, *That there was nothing in the World which a Prince ought not to Sacrifice for a Crown.* And therefore it was, that *Katherine de Medicis*, Queen of *France*, finding her ſelf ready to ſink under the Burden of the Civil Wars, after the death of her Son *Francis* II. and not knowing any longer, after ſhe had tyr'd 'em all out, to what Saint to recommend her ſelf, went to the Devil with her three Younger Children, *Charles* IX. the Duke of *Anjou* and the Duke of *Alanſon*. And the Medal is ſtill to be ſeen with this Device beneath her Figure, engrav'd in Copper, and the Figures of her three Children which ſhe offer'd to the Demon, *Soit, pourvu que je regne. Let it be, ſo I may reign.* If theſe Miſerable Women have carry'd their

their Ambition ſo high for a ſingle Crown, what may it not be Lawful for *Lewis* XIV. to do, ſo he may gain the Univerſal Monarchy? For ſtill whatever he does, the *French* have a Name for it; they call it *Grandeur of Soul.* They offer Incenſe at this very day to the Divinity of *Lewis* the Great, and below his Statue, the Head of which is environ'd with a Glory, there are written theſe Blaſphemous words, *Numini Ludovici Magni.* This is the Religion, and this is the Idol of the Court of *France,* and of their Emiſſaries, that compaſs the Earth to make Proſelytes to embrace and adore the Intereſts of *France.* If among ſuch proceedings as theſe, if in ſuch a Dreary Chaos, the Holy See can find out *Catholicity,* I will acknowledge him to be like God himſelf, who alone can bring Light out of Darkneſs.

But *Lewis* the XIV. was not content with the Crown of *France,* nor to make himſelf Emperour, but to be the Univerſal Monarch of the World, and then not having any more to conquer here below, like the Gyants of Old he would have built a Tower to ſcale Heaven, and Dragoon the Inhabitants of the Eternal Manſions. However the Soveraign KING of Kings, who derides the Folly of Men, has in a good Meaſure confounded the Counſels of *France,* and diſſipated all her Great Deſigns; particularly ſince the raiſing the Siege of *Vienna,* upon the 12th. of *September* 1683. a fatal day for *France,* but glorious for the Emperour and Empire, and Happy for all *Chriſtendom.* This unexpected Blow, contrary to the Hopes and Expectations of *Lewis* the XIV. and his Miniſters, conſtrain'd him to ſeek a Truce, which was granted him for Twenty years; and

and by which the Policy of *France* had a fair Proſpect of Keeping thoſe Towns of which ſhe was Miſtreſs; and on the other ſide had gain'd time to ſee the Iſſue of the War between the two Empires, with a Deſign however, as already has been ſaid, no longer to obſerve the Truce, till the King beheld the Fate of the Two contending Parties. If the Emperour fell, then the King was to march in Perſon into *Germany*, and cauſe himſelf to be proclaim'd Emperour and Protectour of the *Chriſtians*, at the Head of his Army. If the Grand Signior had the worſt of it, then the King was to ſend his Forces to his Aid, by ravaging all *Germany*, and dividing the Forces of the Empire, as he did under imaginary Pretences; which was more then openly to Succour the *Turks*, who in Truth had broken with the *Chriſtians* barely upon the Sollicitations of Count *Teckeli* and the King of *France*, promiſing great Aſſiſtances, if they happen'd to prove the weakeſt, and in that alone the *French* Monarch may be ſaid to have kept his Word. 'Tis alſo no leſs true that his own Intereſt was at the Bottom, he not enduring to behold the Proſperity of the Imperial Arms; and fearing leaſt the Emperour, proving Victorious, ſhould one day re-demand the Towns and Territories which he had uſurp'd from him.

France then ſeeing the Emperour's Succeſs, the *Chriſtians* winning Battel after Battel, the *Turks* driven beyond *Belgrade*, his Deſign upon *Cologne* fruſtrated, the Baron of *Plettenberg* choſen Biſhop of *Munſter*, the Baron of *Elderen* elected Prince and Biſhop of *Liege*, and by this means all the vaſt Deſigns of *Lewis* XIV. quite ranvers'd, ſhe was no longer to be reſtrain'd within the Bounds of a Truce,

ſo

ſo that her Fury fell firſt upon *Phillipsburgh*, which the Emperour not being in a Condition to defend, the King carry'd the Town, the 29th. of *October* 1688. and thus neither *Decorum*, nor the Intereſt of the *Chriſtians*; neither promis'd Faith, nor all the Catholick Religion it ſelf, could hinder the perfidious Victor from declaring openly for the Infidels and Enemies of Chriſt and the Chriſtian Name. However if on the one ſide *France* in ſome meaſure wreck'd her Revenge by the War which ſhe unjuſtly declar'd againſt the Emperour, it may be certainly ſaid, that the Acquiſition of *Philipsburgh* coſt King *James* his Crown, as being at the ſame time abandon'd by *Lewis* the XIV. to his Evil Fortune. The Council of *France* ſoon after, but too late, acknowledg'd their Fault, and could find no other way to excuſe the Blunder, but by entring into a War with *England*, *Spain*, and the *United Provinces*, at the ſame time that they declar'd War againſt the Emperour: and this ſame miſtaken piece of Policy occaſion'd that ſtrict and ſincere Confederacy, which we ſee at this day, between the greateſt part of the Chriſtian Princes to preſerve themſelves from the Invaſions of *France*; and *Lewis* the XIV. to wreck his Revenge upon 'em for the ſad Fate of K. *James*, his moſt dear Allye, whoſe Misfortunes were only the Conſequences of his having follow'd the Counſels of *France* and her pernicious Politicks, was oblig'd to raiſe Great Armies and equip a Numerous Fleet, to reſtore K. *James* to his Throne; tho' hitherto he has not been able to accompliſh any thing in his Favour, but rather has liv'd to ſee the Diſappointment of all the Hopes that flatter'd his firſt Attempts. Whereas if the Ambitious Monarch had

had turn'd his whole Force againſt the Empire only, and bent all his ſtrength on that ſide, he might have gone a great way into the Empire, and have given *Mahomet*, his Dear Friend and Allye, a fair Opportunity to recover his Loſſes. But while he labour'd the Re-mounting of two unhors'd Princes, he ruin'd both the One and the Other. And here it is that we ought to adore the Divine Providence that confounded and ſtrook with a ſuddain Stupidity the Counſels of *France*, on purpoſe to diſſipate thoſe unjuſt Deſigns which her Falſe Politicks had ſuggeſted to her, no leſs then the Aſſailing of all *Europe* at a Time; according to the Proverb, *Covet all, and Loſe all.*

There is no queſtion but that *France* was ſenſible of her Errour, after the Revolution in *England*; for which reaſon ſhe diſcharg'd all her Fury upon poor *Germany*, where the *French* Soldiery exerciſ'd the utmoſt Extremities of Cruelty and Barbariſm, becauſe that Electorate belong'd to the Emperour's near Relation and Confederate.

France being thus Embark'd upon this Tempeſtuous Sea, the Proſperity of the Imperial Arms, the Revolution in *England*, and the ſtrict League of all the Confederate Princes for the Defence of the Common Cauſe could not chooſe but raiſe prodigious Storms about his Ears; and therefore finding there was no repairing the Fault ſhe had committed, ſhe was conſtrain'd to careſs and promiſe the *Ottoman* Port whatever Succour the Infidels demanded both of Men and Money to oblige the *Turks* to continue the War. With a Deſign however to deceive and forſake 'em, ſo ſoon as the Court of *France* ſhould find it convenient to agree with the Emperour.

Emperour. But in regard the *French* have drawn in the *Ottoman* Port, and blinded with their Presents the Principal Ministers, and more especially the Mufti, who holds his Dignity for Life, 'tis almost impossible to open the Eyes of the Grand Sultan, who is willing to flatter himself with the Hopes of recovering that part of *Hungary* which he hast lost. So that as long as the *French* are able to domineer at the Port as they do, 'tis in vain to send Embassadours thither, to make proposals of Peace, since it so absolutely behoves the Court Politicks of *France* to hinder it, by all manner of means, cost what it will, either by Money or Poyson, as we have seen. 'Tis not long since, that the *French* perceiv'd, that the Ministers of the Mediatours had made some Progress in the Interim that our Minister was hastning to the Port; but their Emissaries both at *Constantinople* and *Adrianople* overturn'd with Money all the Measures that had been taken. So that there is nothing but an Insurrection in the *Ottoman* Empire, that can ranverse the Practices and Machinations of *France*; and this is that which the *Christians* ought to meditate, if they desire a Peace between the two Empires; and there are ways to bring it about, if they would but put 'em in Practice.

Nor is it to be question'd but that *France* drives on all the Intrigues imaginable in the *Ottoman* Court, where she is in daily fear, least early or late a sudden Truce should be clap'd up between the two Empires, by reason of some unexpected Insurrection, as I have already said. And therefore it is, that the Court of *France* endeavours to supplant her Confederate, and to make a Peace with the Emperour and the Empire, by restoring several Places which

which she now holds in *Germany*; because that *Lewis* XIV. and his Ministers see very well, that they cannot continue the War, so long as the Confederacy continue their Union, as hitherto they have done: that being alone by himself to bear the Burthen of so many Enemies, he stands in need of Numerous Armies to oppose the same Adversaries that environ him on every side, in *Germany*, *Flanders*, *Brabant*, *Catalogna*, *Navarr* and *Piemont*; but above all, the Conjoyn'd Fleets of *England* and *Holland*, that threaten his Coasts, and enforce him to an Excessive Expence to guard himself from a Descent: his Trade being quite lost, his Subjects reduc'd to utmost Misery, and his Exchequer decreasing every day, through the decay of Trade, and the Poverty of the Inhabitants of his Kingdom. We must believe, that *France* would fain have a Peace, while she thinks she has some Advantage, before any Terrible Blow befall her, which would enforce *Lewis* the Great, to accept of such a Peace as it would please the Emperour and the Confederates to afford him. 'Tis no less certain then, that his Imperial Majesty, together with the Confederates, have no more to do then to continue the War a little longer, to compass their Ends upon *France*, that can never be able to make Head against 'em for any long time. Which is the reason that we find her already beginning to change her Batteries, at the same time that she sees her self oblig'd to alter her Designs in respect of the Empire. Formerly nothing would serve *Lewis* the XIV. but the Imperial Crown for himself, and the Title of King of the *Romans* for the *Dauphin* his Son. But now no more of that: The Grapes are out of his Reach, and therefore

he cries, *They are sowre.* All those vast Designs having fail'd, and all his Lofty Enterprizes being come to nothing, the Policy that *France* made use of when the *Turks* were marching to the Siege of *Vienna*, is now no farther useful: the End failing, the means must of necessity surcease. Formerly *France* was all for dethroning the Emperour; but now 'tis well if she can keep the Crown upon her Monarch's own Head, in preserving by the force of her Arms what he has usurp'd from his Neighbours. Heaven has alter'd the Face of Affairs, by the ill success of the *Ottoman* Armes, and thereby confounding the Counsels of *France*; the designs of both being the same, and both acting in order to the same Ends.

And as the Designs of *France* are chang'd in respect of the Emperour, who is the Chief and Head of the Empire, so they may be presum'd to be the same in regard of the Electours, who are the Members of it: Formerly, 'twas the Policy of *France* to caress 'em one after another, to dazle 'em with the Grandeur of *Lewis* the Great, and perswade 'em to side with the Interests of that Monarch; sparing neither for Promises nor Presents to render 'em inclinable to elect *French* Coadjutours. But afterwards they were clearly convinc'd that this was the Apple of Discord which the King of *France* threw into the Empire, to the End he might swallow 'em up one after another. Now therefore let us see what new course he takes to manage the Princes of the Empire. They can now no longer be serviceable to him in making the *Dauphin* King of the Romans, in regard they have Check-mated him on that side already. So that they have spar'd him a world of Trouble, and a great deal of Money which he was wont

to throw away by Shovel-fulls upon that Occasion. Much less is it to be thought that *Lewis* has now any Hopes of being Emperour, since I am told, that the Book entitul'd, *The just Pretensions of the King to the Empire*, written by the Sieur *Aubri*, Advocate in the Parliament of *Paris*, serves now to no other use, then to wrap up Butter and Cheese in the Chandlers Shops.

The Ministry of *France* now labours to separate the Electours and Princes of the Empire from the common cause (not by the means of Gold or Silver because he finds 'em incorruptible) but by invading their Territories by Fire and Sword, as he has done the *Palatinate*, the Dioceses of *Cologne*, *Mayence* and *Treves*, with a design to enforce 'em to perswade the Emperour to accept of a Separate Peace; by which means *France* will remain the Mistress still of the Greatest part of all her Usurpations. To which purpose she makes a dextrous Use of the easie Access which the Monks and Jesuits have to the Persons of the Roman Catholick Princes, and to intrude among the Ministers of State, every where extolling the King's Catholicity, and his great design to have exterminated Heresie, had not King *James* been dethron'd. But some have said very well in Answer to those Emissaries, that all those forward Acts of seeming Zeal were no other then a sort of Clumsie Trapans; that they must go and tell their Stories to Children and Fools, for that they were no Strangers to the King of *France*'s Religion.

There is one thing very Remarkable, that *Lewis* XIV. designing the Destruction of the Empire, was the occasion of the strengthning it, and of under-

propping it in ſome meaſure with new Supports, by adding a Ninth Electour to the Electoral College, and more particularly by the Choice which the Emperour and the Electours have made of the Duke of *Hanover*, to ſupply that Place, to the great Grief of the Court of *France*, who with all her wilely Stratagems and falſe Politicks, could not prevent it. The Election of a King of the *Romans*, of Prince *Clement* of *Bavaria*, to the Electorate of *Cologne*, of the Baron of *Elderen* to the Biſhoprick of *Liege*, of the Baron of *Plettenberg* to that of *Munſter*, but more eſpecially the Revolution in *England*, were bitter Morſels for the Moſt Chriſtian King to ſwallow, and ſtill lie heavy upon his Stomach. And whenever *France* comes once to ſee the Bottom of her Exchequer, there is no queſtion but her Fall will be very great, ſince it was her Money that only upheld her in all the Courts of *Chriſtendom*, that ſhe has plaiſter'd over all her Uſurpations, and that ſhe has lull'd ſeveral Princes aſleep, whoſe real Intereſt it was to oppoſe her. Silver is a ſort of Mettal every where acceptable, and the Avarice of the *Switzers* has ſpread it ſelf into ſeveral Courts, according to the ſaying of *Alexander*, *That there was nothing inacceſſible to Silver*: tho' *Matchiavell* upholds, *That 'tis a hard matter for Steel to keep poſſeſſion of that which is purchaſed with Gold.* Nevertheleſs we have ſeen the Contrary both in *Germany* and *Flanders*, where the King of *France* bought ſeveral Places with good ready Money, and has held 'em for ſeveral Years. But give me leave to add this Reaſon for it, I mean the little good Correſpondence at that time between the Princes of the Empire, and the Powder of Gold which their *Jupiter* rain'd among 'em. That Monarch

narch not only got great Footing within the Territories of his Neighbours, but made his Poſſeſſion good. Witneſs *Strasburg*, *Hunninghen*, and ſeveral other Places upon the *Rhine*, as *Mayence* and ſeveral Fortreſſes in the Dioceſs of *Cologne*, if Heaven, by a Blow that *France* little expected, had not linked together that Sacred Union, in the Empire, for the Common defence, which all the gilded Politicks of *France* could never prevent, nor her Poyſon put a ſtop to. And this is a Truth never to be contradicted, that the Sincere Union of the Princes of the Empire preſerves 'em from being corrupted, and early or late will render 'em Victorious over the Common Enemy, and put 'em in a Condition of being able to recover what they have, and fix 'em in the Poſſeſſion of what they hold untouch'd. No wonder then that the *French* deſtroy and ruine *Germany* where they come, becauſe they find they cannot hold it, but muſt ſurrender back all their Uſurpations: tho' by the Havock which they make, they are in hopes to weaken the Strength of their Enemies. 'Twould be but Juſtice then, and what the King of *France* has no ſuch reaſon to wonder at, that he ſhould be one day conſtrain'd to repay the Damages, for the Spoil which his Armies have committed, in purſuance of his Internal Politicks.

During the Reign of *Philip* the II. King of *Spain*, it may be ſaid, that *France* and *Spain* divided *Europe* between 'em; and that they were truly the Two Scales of a Ballance, which the Other Sovereigns endeavour'd to keep in an Equilibrium, and ſided ſometimes with the One, ſometimes with the Other, as their Intereſt directed 'em, in order to keep an Equality of Force, for fear of being ſwallow'd up

by the Strongeſt. But ſince King *Philip*'s time, it may be ſaid, That *Spain* has been continually ſinking lower and lower; that ſhe has been in good part the Prey of *France*; and that had it not been for the Allies, the French at this Hour would have been not only Maſters of the *Low-Countries*, but of *Madrid* it ſelf. And indeed it may be ſaid, that the Duke of *Alva* lent the firſt helping Hand to the fall of the *Spaniſh* Puiſſance, by his Proclamation concerning the Tenth Penny in the Year 1569. by his Depriving the People of the Liberty of Conſcience, and the *Maſſacers* that ſucceeded, and which was the real Cauſe of the Revolt of part of the *Low-Countries*, and the Fountain and Original of all the Misfortunes that afterwards befell that Monarchy, which inſtead of ſtriking Dread and Terrour into all *Europe*, and the Other World, is dwindl'd away to that degree of Impuiſſance wherein we now behold it; govern'd 'tis true, by one of the beſt Princes in the World, leading a Pious and Exemplary Life, and void of any Vicious Inclination: and it may be certainly ſaid, that the People and Grandees of the Kingdom are happy under ſo Juſt a King, if they underſtood their Felicity, and would but correſpond with the Pacifick Genius of their Prince. But moſt commonly the Miniſters and their Adherents make their Advantage of the Good Nature of their Prince to fill their own Purſes by emptying his, and by that means deprive him of his Ability to withſtand the Sworn Enemy of *Spain*, who environs him on every ſide, and who for more then one Age together, has ſtudy'd nothing but his utter Ruine, and makes a dextrous uſe of his Imbecility. The King of *France* has been a long time acquainted with the Conſti-

tution

tution of the preſent Catholick King, and upon that Knowledge it is that the Policy of *France* has built her Deſigns, and ſo well underſtood to carry on her Affairs, that ſhe brought about a Marriage of that Monarch with a Princeſs of *France*, Daughter to the Duke of *Orleance*, and that meerly to be inform'd of what paſt even in this Catholick Majeſty's Bed-Chamber, as was ſeen by the Relations frequent in the Court of *France*, and which meerly ſerv'd for Sport among the *French* Ladies, who are naturally enclin'd to Goſſipry, Tittle-Tattle, and Railliery. And therefore 'tis a pernicious ſort of Policy in the Court of *Madrid*, to beſtow the Daughters of *Spain* upon *France*, and to match their Soveraigns with the Daughters of *France*: and of this there are recent Proofs that make us ſenſible. For it is certain that the Marriage of the Infanta *Maria Tereſa* to *Lewis* XIV. has brought nothing but War and continual Trouble upon *Spain*, and ſtill will become the Occaſion of More, by reaſon of the *Dauphin*'s Pretenſions, in caſe the Catholick King happens to dye without Heirs. 'Twill be in vain then to alledge that *Lewis* the XIV. at his Marriage renounc'd his Claims with a Solemn Oath: for if he brake his Oath, and all the Princes blame him for doing an unlawful and unjuſt Act tending to Uſurpation, a Sin againſt Reaſon and Conſcience: 'tis preſently told ye, that he could do nothing to the Prejudice of a Third Perſon, meaning the *Dauphin* of *France*, the only Offſpring by that Marriage; and uſually in ſuch differences between Soveraigns, the longeſt Sword carries it. *Ratio ultima, Regnum*, was the Motto which Cardinal *Richlieu* caus'd to be engrav'd upon the Armes of *France*. Or if it be not

reaſon, 'tis the definitive Will of Kings, and becomes Reaſon, if once it proves ſucceſsful. The want of Iſſue by the Catholick King's ſecond Marriage with the Princeſs *Palatine* of *Newburgh*, increaſes and ſwells the Ambition of *France*; and 'tis very probable, that *Lewis* the XIV. would not be willing that the King of *Spain* ſhould happen to dye (which God forbid) during his being enga'd in a War with almoſt all *Europe*; in regard that not having his Hands free, he could not ſo eaſily fall upon *Spain* with a ſufficient Force, as he might be able to do, to make himſelf Maſter of that Monarchy, in proſecution of his Hopes and Pretenſions, if his Catholick Majeſty did not prevent him, in his Lifetime. 'Tis the Policy of *France* to inſinuate into the Grandees of *Spain* deſires of enriching themſelves, while they have an Opportunity; to the end that after his Death, they may be able to erect Petty Sovereignties in every Corner of the Kingdom, for there is not any Prince among 'em who wants a Pretenſion, with a promiſe to every one that ſhe will ſtand by Him, and grant him her Protection againſt all Aſſailants; They not conſidering all this while, that *France* will at laſt ſwallow 'em all up, one after another, and that they will become the Sport of *Lewis* the Great, their ſecret Enemy. Who in the mean time by this means enfeebles *Spain*, extenuates the King's Treaſure, and deprives him not only of the power to recover the Places he has loſt, but to defend thoſe which he has yet in his Poſſeſſion, which the *French* wreſt from him by degrees, becauſe that *Spain* is not in a Condition to make a Potent Oppoſition; as Experience had taught us too apparently, not only during the War, but alſo in

time

time of Peace. For that ſince the *Pyrenæan* Peace, *Spain* has ſuffer'd the Uſurpation of a great many Provinces, as *Burgundy*, *Franche Comté*, and Conſiderable Portions of the *Low-Countries* and *Catalonia*. And all this, becauſe that *Spain* is a languiſhing and ſickly Body, whoſe Forces waſte by degrees, through the too much ſoftneſs of the Soveraign, and the Greedy Covetouſneſs of the Grandees of the Kingdom. Whereas if the Catholick King would make uſe of his Authority; forſake his Cabinet and Head his Armes, there is no queſtion but that the Face of his Affairs would quickly alter. It behoves him for the repleniſhing of his Coffers to ſqueeze the Spunges that have ſwell'd themſelves with his Treaſures, and enrich'd themſelves at the Expences of his Crown and People. A Prince that leads a Soft and Effeminate Life is neither fear'd by his Enemies, nor belov'd by his People. He is lookt upon as a Statue, and reſembles thoſe that wiſh for mighty Things, as if they deſign'd to leave only their Dreams to Poſterity. Whereas a Monarch ought with his own Sword to make the Pen that is to write his Hiſtory: that is to ſay, that his Valour and Proweſs ought to afford his Hiſtoriographer, Matter: otherwiſe he only ſerves to fill up the Catalogue of the Kings, and the Day of his Birth, and the Day of his Death are the moſt Illuſtrious and Memorable Parts of all his Hiſtory. A King receives his Crown from his Anceſtors, but his Renown muſt ſpring from himſelf. The Council of *Spain* falls aſleep preſently after a Peace, and many times after a Truce, not conſidering that *France* is always awake, and that ſhe never lays down her Armes but that it Coſts the King of *Spain* ſome or

other

other of his beſt Towns. It would be ſuperfluous to ſet forth in Painting to the *Spaniards*, the miſery of their Condition, ſhould they once fall under the Deſpotick Dominion of *France*. They need no more then caſt their Eyes upon the lamentable and wretched Eſtate to which the *French* are at this day reduc'd; while ſome are forc'd to wander about the World, expos'd to utmoſt Miſery, to Hunger and Cold, and all this meerly to avoid the Cruelty and Tyranny of their Monarch; and they that remain behind, lie Groaning under the weight of his Iron Scepter that continually bruiſes 'em to death with his Oppreſſions and his Impoſts. The only way therefore for the *Spaniards* to prevent their Ruine, is to countermine the Policy of *France*: to ſupplicate their Monarch to appoint his Succeſſour in his Life-time; to the end he may be bred up in the Court of *Madrid*, and be ready to oppoſe the Invaſions of *France* after the King's deceaſe. But more eſpecially to beg of the Emperour to put a ſpeedy End to the Turkiſh War, that he may have his Hands at Liberty to be aſſiſting to *Spain* at a time of need.

'Tis alſo an Affair of Great Importance, and moſt Eſſential toward the Preſervation of the Remainder of the *Low-Countries*, and not to relie as the Council of *Spain* does upon her Neighbours; which is the reaſon that they neglect to ſend the True Succour, which it would behove 'em to ſend in time into thoſe Provinces which were within a Fingers Breadth of being utterly loſt, during King *James*'s Reign. And indeed there happen ſo many Changes and Revolutions in the World, that a well adviſ'd Monarch ought never to relie upon the Forces of Other Princes but his own.

While

While the Provinces of the Spaniſh Low-Countries were govern'd by Intereſted Vice-Roys, who preferr'd their own private Concerns, before the Preſervation of the Provinces, with which they were entruſted, we ſtill found that *France* ſeiz'd upon City after City, and is now in Poſſeſſion of whole Provinces; and it may be ſaid that a better thought never came into her Head, then when ſhe abandon'd the Conqueſt of *Italy* (where ſhe Exhauſted her Men and Money) to turn her Forces upon *Flanders*, where all Appearances ſeem'd more eaſie, ſince ſhe ſaw well that Governours were ſent thither only to enrich themſelves: among whom the Greateſt Part minded more the getting of a Million into their Purſes, then the preſervation of the Beſt City in the *Low-Countries*! To avoid which Miſchief, there is a neceſſity of having a Prince for Governour, whoſe particular Intereſt it is to preſerve 'em, who will march at the Head of his Army, lay out the Subſidies of the People, in defraying the Neceſſary Expences of the People, and take care for the Timely Returns of Money; for that the *Low-Countries* can never ſubſiſt without an Army well pay'd.

We have met with all theſe Advantages in the Perſon of his Electoral Highneſs the Duke of *Bavaria*; and it may be ſaid without flattery, That the Choice which his Catholick Majeſty made of that Prince for the Government of the *Low-Countries*, was one of the beſt and moſt important Hits of State that *Spain* has been for ſome time guilty of. 'Twas ſuch a Blow to *France*, as broke all the Meaſures ſhe had taken, during the Government of *Gaſtanaga*; nor could *Lewis* XIV. ward off this

Blow

Blow which the King of *England* gave him, without ever giving him warning to guard himſelf.

'Tis a thing no leſs obſervable then wonderful, That the Council of *Spain* having no more then this little Corner of the Earth to guard, ſhould neglect it as They do; ſeeing that good Policy requires, that *Spain* ſhould drein herſelf, rather then part with it, were it for nothing elſe but to ſerve her as an Amuzement to the Arms of *France*, as we have found it to have been in all the laſt and preſent Wars, and the Counterguard that keeps the moſt Chriſtian King from Marching to the very Walls of *Madrid* it ſelf. The reaſon of this Careleſsneſs may well be thought to be the Popular Errour of the Inhabitants of *Flanders* and *Brabant*, who tell the Hollanders, when they upbraid 'em with their Remiſsneſs as to their own Preſervation, *'Tis you that ought to defend us, for the ſake of your own Intereſt.* And indeed, there is ſome reaſon for this Opinion. But the chief reaſon proceeds from the Avarice of the Spaniſh Miniſters, who ſhroud themſelves under this Miſtake, which ſerves 'em to heap up Wealth, while the King their Sovereign is engag'd on every ſide to preſerve himſelf.

The Policy of *France*, together with her Louid'ors, works now the ſame Effect with the which formerly *Philip* II. wrought by virtue of his Doublon's. For I have heard ſay, That ev'n in Time of Peace, there was not any Place in the *Low-Countries* where *Lewis* XIV. had not his Creatures and his Cabals ready to declare themſelves in Time and Place, and when an Opportunity requir'd. And certain it is, That if this were not the whole which was then ſaid, 'tis

a good

a good part of the Truth. For having beheld what we have ſeen in our days, in reference to that impregnable City of *Luxemburgh*, and the Acquiſition of the whole Province that follow'd, we ought to be convinc'd, that that ſame Place of ſo great moment was not obtain'd by the Bravery and Courage only of the French. There is no better way then, to diſappoint thoſe Treacheries, then by often changing the Garriſons, and ſometimes the Governors themſelves; but above all things, to Pay well, and Puniſh without Exception, when there is the leaſt Fault committed. The *Low-Countries* are, at preſent, like an Inſolvent Houſe, that muſt be re-ſettl'd by good Oeconomy, and by affording the Inhabitants the Means of being able to contribute towards it.

The *Low-Countries* have a long time been the Mark at which the Court of *France* has aim'd. Upon the leaſt Diſpute, or Pretence of a Quarrel with the Court of *Spain*, in ſhe pours with all her Fury upon the *Low-Countries*, like an impetuous Torrent; plunders, burns, and never retreats without ſome conſiderable Loppings which ſhe diſmembers from the Body of the Tree. Which nevertheleſs is not a Miſchief never to be remedy'd; ſince the Sea it ſelf is many times reſtrain'd by Cauſeys and Mounds, though it be an Element a thouſand times more to be fear'd then the Policy and Pride of *Lewis* XIV. And this is that which the Duke of *Bavaria*, and the reſt of his Brave Confederates muſt do, to ſtop and curb the rapid Inundations of *France*. They muſt look upon the French Monarch as one that thunders in all his Forces and his Fury upon thoſe Places where he is ſure to find but little Reſiſtance, and

from

from such Victories as those he reaps his greatest Honour. I confess, that a Prince who is violent, and a Usurper, is happy so long as Fortune goes hand in hand with his Natural Humour. But in regard she grows weary, for the most part, of always carrying one Man upon her Back, we also find that the same Prince becomes unprosperous, when Fortune changes her Mind, or rather, when there is an Opposition made against him. And therefore, if we may build upon outward Appearances, and if there be any thing of Prognostication in the Presentiments of Wise and Judicious Men, the *Low-Countries* may well hope, by the Blessing of Heaven, the prudent Conduct of their Great and Sage Governor and Leader, and the sincere Intentions of the Confederates, to be soon deliver'd from the Yoke and Barbarity of *France*, and enjoy the Fat of a fruitful Soil, that has so long fed so many Thousands of Foreigners, both Men and Beasts.

From the *Low-Countries* I cross over into *England*, where I find, that the Revolution which happen'd in the Year 1689. affords a large Field, and ample Matter to supply my Discourse. The Court of *France* not only cry'd *The Town's our's*, but *Europe's my own* so soon as she beheld *James* II. upon the Throne of *Great Britain*. I shall not here enlarge upon the Accident that set him in the Throne. But certain it is that, *France* and He had long and passionately waited for the happy Minute; for that according to their Saying between 'em, *Charles* II. was a meer Slugg, and had neither vigour nor courage to put in Execution the Projects that *France* was a brewing. But far from that, *Charles* II. wanted

neither

neither Policy nor Ingenuity, and might have gone to his Grave with the Character of Prudent and Vertuous, but for his scandalous Inclinations for Women. However, it may be assuredly said, That the Match to which he was in a manner driven against his own Consent, made him disgust Matrimony, and threw him into a Vein of wanton Courtship. 'Tis true, 'twas a Weakness in him too apparent for his Honour; but *France*, and his Brother the Duke of *York*, knew how to make their Advantage of it. And therefore the Joy of *Lewis* XIVth's Court was not to be conceiv'd, so soon as born He and his Adherents understood the Death of that good Prince, and the Elevation of *James* II. to the Throne; the Jesuits rejoyc'd in particular; and never was such Posting backwards and forwards between *Versailles* and *London*, as after the King of *England*'s Death came to be publickly known at the French Court. And there was some reason for it; for that then it was, that the French Council began to take terrible Resolutions, in order to the putting in Execution a Design that *France* had kept conceal'd in her Breast for many Years before. She began with the Revocation of the Edict of *Nants*, a Thing which she durst not meddle with, so long as King *Charles* was alive, (though that Prince, in his heart, was none of the Devoutest Religionaries; but a Politician much more, and one who observ'd his Measures, by reason of his Parliament, that was well inform'd that *England* was the Garrantee of that Edict.) But so soon as *James* II. became sole Master in *England*, the Court of *France* gave her self her full swinge, and push'd on her Design upon *Europe*, might and main, because that then there was no longer any fear of *England*, which was the only Puissance that could

could either disappoint or advance her Enterpr
And this was a Truth at all times so well known
the Kings of *England*, that *Hen.* VIII. made a Me
of Gold, upon which was engrav'd a Hand stret
ing it self out of a Cloud, and holding a Pair of Sca
that were equally poiz'd, with this Motto, *M*
Friendship turns the Beam.

But in King *James*'s Time it was not *Eng*
turn'd the Scale, but *France*, while *England* like a
Ox, ignorant of his own Strength, tamely sur
render'd her Neck to the Golden Yoke of *Lewis*
XIV.

Formerly the Policy of *France* sent to the Court of *England* Lovely French Nymphs to cultivate the Hearts of the English Lords, and of the Monarch himself. But during King *James*'s Reign, another sort of Vermin were made use of, and Monks and Jesuits were sent in Shoals, that like so many Caterpillers and Locusts devour'd the Country; and who had already dispers'd themselves over all the Kingdom, and had made themselves Masters of the King and his Privy-Council, to the great grief of all his good Subjects. What a Heart-breaking must it needs be to the sounder Party at Court, to see a Father *Peters* Chief in the Privy-Council, pearch'd upon one of the highest Dignities in the Kingdom, slighting and domineering over the Lords and Peers of the Realm, as having got the Soveraign Authority into his Hands, and for that the King and the Queen (a Princess transported altogether by her Passion) suffer'd themselves to be deluded and govern'd by this *Tartuff* of a Hypocrite, and he over-rul'd by Father *La Chaise*, who had all his Orders from the Court of *France*. By which it may be easie to judge in what Condition

France

...ce was at that time; what Devils haunted both Court and the Kingdom, trampl'd o're the ...ks of the King's best Subjects, and were just ...osing the People to the Rage of Queen *Mary*'s ...ign, who allow'd her Subjects no other Choice ... of the *Mass* or the *Faggot*.

...hey who seriously consider the Policy of *France* ...espect of *England*, during the Reign of King ...*mes* the II. will find the Game but very ill play'd, ...eing that in so short a time it gave an occasion to ...Revolution so dangerous to *France*. But so it hap...pen'd, because that *Lewis* XIV. not foreseeing the Consequences, after he had once given a loose Liberty to the Monks and Jesuits, was no longer Master of the Affair; and those Vermin pusht on King *James* with so much precipitancy, that he being desirous to do too much at once, they ranvers'd at the same time all the Designs of *France*, and cast him headlong from the Throne into an Abyss, from whence he will never be able to rise again so long as he lives: nor will all the Power of *France*, nor the detestable Wealth and Politicks of the Jesuits be able to restore him again.

If the Court of *France* were so excessive in their Rejoycing upon the Coronation of King *James*, we may assure our selves, that they were no less drown'd in Tears of Grief and Rage upon his Abandoning the Crown. And then it was, that all the best Head-pieces, both Jesuits and Courtiers, met together which way to apply some proper Remedies to a Blow so fatal and so unlookt for: and then it was that *Lewis* XIV. acknowledg'd his Error in following the Marquis of *Louvois*'s Counsel, which was to attack *Philipsburgh* in-

ſtead of *Maeſtritcht*, and give the Prince of *Orange* an Opportunity to paſs un-diſturb'd into *England*. But that which deceiv'd *France*, was an Army of Forty thouſand Men which King *James* had a-foot, of which a great part were Iriſh, and a Fleet of Forty Men of War riding out at Sea; which indeed was a Force ſufficient both by Sea and Land to have reſiſted ſo ſmall a number as attended the Prince into *England*. But it may be ſaid, that that ſame great Body was a meer Monſter, all Arms but no Head, and whoſe Veins were fill'd with Water only inſtead of Blood. And if *France* had bethought her ſelf to have ſounded in the firſt Place, the Heart of King *James*, ſhe would have found there more of Cowardice then Courage, and without queſtion ſhe would have march'd her Troops to the Lower inſtead of ſending them to the Upper *Rhine*. But by this we ſee that there is a certain Deſtiny which all the Wiſdom, all the Force and Induſtry of mortal Man cannot eſcape.

But now the Conſtitution of the Court of *England* being chang'd by the Alteration of the Government, there was a neceſſity for the Court of *France* to change her Batteries, and to employ all her Politicks which way to dethrone the reigning King, whether by the Sword, by Fire or by Poyſon, 'twas indifferent to her, provided ſhe attain'd her Ends; and for the Truth of this, we have ſufficient Proofs; the Teſtimony of *Grandvall* at his Death, and the authentick Depoſitions of *Dement*, who is ſtill living, to the Shame and Confuſion of *France*, the Remembrance of which will be a laſting Stain to her Honour; a Fact which her ſucceeding Princes will deny as a Reproach to their Poſterity, and for which Hiſtories

stories only furnish us with the Example of *Darius*, King of *Persia*, who not being able to vanquish his Enemy *Alexander* in Battel, treacherously labour'd to have won the Grecian Soldiers either to kill or betray their Prince. And for that it was that the Macedonian Victor upbraided *Darius*'s Embassadors, when they came to sue for Peace, and to return him Thanks for the Civilities he had shew'd to his Mother, his Wife and his two Daughters; to which Embassadour the *Macedonian* Monarch thus began his Answer. *Tell your Master, that Thanks are superfluous among Soldiers that make War one upon another; and therefore if I were Civil and Courteous towards his Relations, 'twas only to satisfie my self, and not out of any Affection that I bear to him; for 'tis not my Humour to insult over the Miserable. I never attack Prisoners nor Women, I only assail those that I meet with Weapons in their Hands, and who are in a Condition to defend themselves. So that if he sincerely desir'd Peace, I should consider what I had to do, but seeing that he still continues by Letters and Money to sollicit my Soldiers, to betray me, and my Friends to Kill me, I am resolv'd to pursue him to the uttermost of my Power; no longer as an Enemy, but as a Poysoner, and a Ruffian, &c.*

'Tis not to be deny'd, but that when any man designs to murther his Enemy, 'tis because he dreads him with a more then Ordinary Fear, and to deprive his more valiant Adversary by such a Cowardly and detestable Action of the Honour of vanquishing him in Battel. But such Assassins never come to good End: for *Darius* perish'd miserably, being murder'd by his own Subjects, and at the same time lost both his Life, his Diadem and all the Wealth of *Persia*. But to return to our Subject.

During the Reign of King *James*, *France* sent into *England* whole Legions of Monks and Jesuits, under pretence of Propagating the Faith, and to screw themselves into the most considerable Families of the Realm, under pretence of Religion, as also to assist this Unfortunate Prince, to observe his Footsteps and dive into his secret Thoughts, to the end he might not be able to avoid the Chains which the Court of *France* had prepar'd for him. But now the Emissaries of *France* have alter'd their Language; and whereas at that time they preach'd nothing to the *English* but Peace and Obedience there; now they breath nothing but Fire and Flame, Sedition and Murder where e're they come, fomenting Rebellion in all parts of the Kingdom, and ready once more to fire the City of *London*, if they believ'd the Conflagration would contribute any thing to their wicked Designs.

The whole Policy and Craft of *France* is at a great Loss at this Conjuncture, to find that all her Machinations against the Life of the King of *England*, at present prosperously Reigning, are still disappointed. Nor is it less a bitter Choak-Pear to *Lewis* XIV. the Proudest Monarch upon Earth, to see himself at last constrain'd to acknowledge his Brittanick Majesty the Lawful Monarch of the Three Kingdoms, and sue to him for Peace; and all this after he had Vaunted before all the World that he would never lay down his Arms till he had restor'd King *James* to his Throne, not without a prophane and Daring Application of the words of God the Father to the Son. *Sit thou at my Right hand till I make thy Enemies thy Foot-stool.* Now after such a Bounce, a man would think it should be a trouble to

the

the Court of *France* to find her self constrain'd to dismiss this poor unfortunate Prince. But there will be no such Thing: For when Persons that have been profitable to the Court of *France* become once unserviceable, she never scruples to send 'em packing in cold Blood. 'Tis true that she observes some Measures, and lets yee know her Mind at first by Hints and indirect Whispers: but if you do not understand her Mute Language and Dumb Signs, she fails not to inform your Stupidity with plain and down-right Expressions: it being a Maxim of the *French* Court, never to love the Unfortunate. But you'l say, what Benefit can accrue to *Lewis* XIV. by keeping King *James* in *France*: 'tis not for the Benefit of his Counsel; for he could never give or take any himself; nor is it out of any heat of Concupiscence for the Queen of *England*; for he has much handsomer and Prettier in his Seraglio of St. *Cyr*, where Madam *de Maintenon* out of her Pious Care, for several Years together has kept in good *decorum* a numerous Bevie of young handsome Ladies, who are as it were so many Victims which she offers to the Divinity of *Lewis the Great*; and though that Monarch had not that Reserve for his little Pleasures, the Court is full of *Coquetts*, and the Mothers are such *Nimmy-hammers* as to carry their Daughters thither, to try whether or no their good Fortune will advance 'em to the Embraces of that Great Monarch, and all this in hopes to raise the drooping condition of their Family. Insomuch that I have known some Parents condescend to that point of Panderism, as to Lesson their Daughters and instruct 'em what they were to say and do, in case the King should happen to take notice of 'em. So that most assuredly, it would not

be to Queen *Jemmykin* that the Sultan of *France* would throw his Handkerchief, unleſs it were with that Limitation that *Alexander* obſerv'd, who refus'd to exerciſe at the Olympick Games, unleſs he might have Kings for his Competitors. And thus *Lewis* XIV. grown more Great perhaps then formerly, would have the World believe, that he'll no longer be a Gameſter in the Sports of Love, unleſs he may have Queens for the Objects of his Paſſion. However, the King grows old, and therefore let us be ſo favourable to him as to believe, that if the Court of *France* did entertain King *James* and all his Train at St. *Germains*, 'twas not for any Affection the *French* Monarch bare him, but becauſe the *Engliſh* Fugitive who generally, feeds upon Chimera's, fancy'd Himſelf, and endeavour'd to perſwade the Court of *France* that he had a Great Party in *England*; not only all the *Roman Catholicks*, but all the Fanaticks in the Kingdom. That the *Quaker Penn*, who indeed is no other then a Jeſuit in Maſquerade, aſſur'd him of the Abſolute Devotion of that whole Sect to his Party and Service. But the Court of *France* has been well inform'd, that all theſe Aſſurances were meer Illuſions, ſeeing that neither Catholicks nor Quakers are admitted into the Parliament, nor into any the meaneſt Offices in the Kingdom; and that it would be a very difficult thing not to ſay an Impoſſibility to embody all thoſe that go by the Name of *Jacobites*, ſcatter'd up and down in ſeveral Parts of the Kingdom, and for the moſt part known to be ſuch. Beſides that, we find that no ſooner a Dozen of theſe Rebels meet together, but they are preſently diſcover'd; a viſible Sign of the Care that Divine Providence takes for the Preſervation of their Britannick Majeſties; and that the

ſame

ſame Providence watches over 'em, while they, without intermiſſion, labour to ſettle their Government, to protect the Nation againſt their Enemies, and to re-advance the Honour of the Britiſh Name, beyond what the Princes, their Predeceſſors, have done for ſeveral Ages.

There is no queſtion to be made but that the King of *France*, or his Council, is very well inform'd of the Conſtitution of *England*, and that it will be in vain for their Enemies to attempt any thing there, ſo long as the King and his Parliament are united together, as we find 'em at this Day. Inſomuch, that this good Correſpondence has furniſh'd the King with powerful Supplies, to oppoſe his Enemies both by Sea and Land, tho' their Number were double to what it is at this Day. For that ſo long as the Engliſh have a formidable Fleet upon their Coaſts, who ſhall be ſo daring as to attack 'em? Not *France*, I'm ſure. Beſides, that if they can but come to grapple with their lurking Enemy, the French would ſoon be conſtrain'd to quit their Coaſts. So that all things being conſider'd, there is nothing more for *France* to do, but to give over the War with *England*; for that unleſs they be Maſters of the Sea, their Trade is loſt, and they are abſolutely ruin'd, not being able to ſell their Wines, their Brandies, and other Products of the Kingdom; beſides that, they are forc'd to drein themſelves of all their ready Money to pay the King's Subſidies, with a number of Impoſitions and Taxes with which the Kingdom ſwarms. And which is worſt of all, their Harveſts having fail'd for Two Years together, from whence ſhall they have Corn if they be not Maſters of the Sea? more eſpecially being at War with the

Hollanders, and excluded out of *Spain*, which has several times supply'd their Wants. So that 'tis no wonder that the French begin to be weary of the War, especially with *England*; and that he no longer observes any Measures with King *James*, who at present resembles one of one those petty Saints, to whom they will not put themselves to the trouble of lighting up a small Wax Candle, because they neither cure any Diseases, nor are able to make their Guardian's Pot boil.

France has begun a War, which she will not get quit of when she pleases her self. Her Monarch has a long time acted *Orlando Furioso*, and affronted both in Word and Deed, a Prince that was not in a Condition to defend himself; but now that Providence, by a miraculous Conduct, has plac'd the injur'd Prince upon the British Throne, 'tis not for the Court of *France* to think, that God by his Providence has so highly exalted that Prince, has conferr'd upon him the Government of several Kingdoms and Provinces, and put so great a Power into the Hands of the only Prince that *France* is afraid of; a Prince that has so well united the greatest part of the Princes of *Europe*, in order to make a vigorous War against the common Enemy, who by degrees has so largely usurp'd upon their Dominions, and all this only to render more conspicuous the Honour of *Lewis* XIV. as his Emissaries give out. 'Tis never to be believ'd; and they that imagine it, must be either void of Sence, or be of the Number of those Phanaticks that have no more Wit then to adhere to King *James*.

But if *France* can get nothing by a War with *England*, she may be much a loser, considering the present

sent Condition of her Affairs. For should the English once happen to let Foot in *France*, they have not forgot their Right to *Normandy*, *Guienne*, *Poitou*, and *Languedock*. When the English quitted *Calais*, they promis'd the French Governour, who came to take possession of it, to return when their Sins were not so crying loud as those of the French. At least the Court of *France* is not to believe that the English will let 'em alone in the quiet Possession of *Dunkirk*; a Place that is no more the Patrimony of the Kings of *France*, then *Strasburgh*. They that sold both the one and the other of those Cities, had no right to make the Bargain: *France* treated with those that were under Age. Now we know that what an Infant Sells or Contracts for, is lyable to be cancell'd. *Charles* the Second had neither conquer'd nor purchas'd *Dunkirk*; he found it annex'd to the Crown upon his return to his Kingdoms; nor was it for him to sell it, to satisfie the Avarice of his Chancellor. So that the Kings his Predecessors, have still an undeniable Right, either to regain it by Force of Arms, or recover it by Treaty of Peace, with much more Equity and Justice, then the Chamber of *Metz* can pretend, to make Reunions to the Crown of *France*.

The words *surrender back*, are doubtless very hard of Digestion to *Lewis* the Great, who pretends at all times to be the only Person that can restore Peace to *Europe*; and therefore he ought in the first place to understand what Restitution is. The Greatest and Wisest of Kings assures us, That Destruction presses close upon the Heels of the Proud; and as I have already said, Fortune grows weary of always carrying the same Prince upon her Back.

There

There are many Reasons why *France* should sink, after all the Cruelties she has committed, and which are not yet at an end. People trail their Chains after 'em for some time without much complaint; but 'tis with a design to break 'em upon the first Opportunity: and there is no question to be made, but that if the *English* once set Foot ashore with their Prince at the Head of 'em, not only that the greatest part will receive him as their Deliverer. And I dare be bold to affirm, that there are at Present a Great Number in *France* who wish it, and wait for their Deliverance, and that there is hardly a Lord at Court, or a Prince of the Blood, who does not pray for the bringing down their Monarch, and the Prosperity of the Confederates Armes. The Race of *Valois* ended in *France* for less Crimes then those that *Bourbon* has committed: But there is a precise Time appointed for humbling the Monarchs of the World, conceal'd from Humane Knowledge, and it is a Folly to go about to penetrate into a Secret which Divine Providence has reserv'd to it self. However we see the King of *France* tries all Ways and Means to support himself, like a Man that strives against Death. He ruins his Subjects to maintain his Armies; he Impoverishes 'em, to constrain 'em to turn Soldiers. He calls in all their Money, embases it, and pays 'em with New Money enhanc'd above a Third part of the True Value, to fill his Coffers. He seizes upon all the Church-Plate, and what belongs to private Persons, and coins it into Money; and the better to inveigle the People, as it were to follow his Example, he sends his own Plate First of all to the Mint, and sends for it back the next day. There is no

any

any Tax, or Toll, or Imposition that has escap'd the Invention of his *Flint-Skinners*; so that the greatest part of all the Handycraft Tradesmen and Peasants have abandon'd their Farms and their Houses, to wander about and beg their Bread, or else to seek their Livelihoods in foreign Countries. I have often with my own Ears heard very good Men and Old Catholicks cry out, *When will the Prince of* Orange, meaning the King of *England* now reigning, *come and deliver us from all our Miseries.* Rightly judging, That the English are They who can only give that Lucky Blow; by reason that their nearness to the Coasts of *France* facilitates their Entrance into the Kingdom. The Court of *France* knows this to be true, and therefore takes so much care to line their Coasts; tho' the King of *France*'s whole Army would not suffice to guard a Compass of 300 Leagues in Extent so well as they should do, to prevent the Enemies landing in some part or other: Where they that land have no more to do then only to stand the First Shot; for the Second Discharge will prove very moderate; and for the Third, there will be no occasion to fear it.

I affirm then, that the *English* alone are able to harrass *France* more then any of the Confederates, to put her to an Excessive Expence, which drains her Treasury, forces the King to oppress his Subjects that he may replenish his Coffers, provokes the Malecontents to shake off the Yoke of a Despotick Government, and to desire a Government like that of *England*, which beyond all contradiction is the most Just and most Equitable, as well for the King as for the People; every one there enjoying their

Rights

Rights and Privileges, the King his due Prerogatives, and the People their Repose.

If any one of the Republicks of *Europe* be able to infuse Jealousies and Fears into *France*, it is the Republick of the United Provinces, which is at present the most potent, the most illustrious, the most glorious, and the most wealthy Republick in the World. I acknowledge that *Venice* may dispute the Point of Antiquity with her: otherwise there is no Comparison to be made between 'em. No wonder then that her Neighbouring Puissance has drawn upon her the Envy of *France*. The Policy of her Ministers, ever since the Beginning of this Reign, has very judiciously exercis'd it self in finding out the most clever and probable ways to swallow up those Provinces, either by Conquest or by Ruining 'em, to which purpose Measures have been taken a long while ago. And *Lewis* XIV. at the Beginning of the War 1672. did verily believe to have compass'd his Designs: having invaded the States at a Time when they rely'd upon the Faith and Sincerity of Treaties, and had neither any Forces a foot, nor any General to lead 'em; Good Husbandry being Natural to Republicks in Time of Peace. Nevertheless *France* could not strike that Blow so home as she desir'd, without the Consent of *England*; and therefore it was that the Court of *France* was so careful to improve their Friendship with *Charles* II. sparing neither for Money nor the Allurements of Pleasure to inveigle and fasten him to their Interests, and to cause him to bury in Oblivion all the Benefits he had receiv'd from the Republick and the House of *Orange*. Nor would *France*

quit

quit her Hold, till *England* had in conjunction with her, declar'd War against the United Provinces, where the Embassadors of *France* had for some Years labour'd underhand by the Inticing Baits of Gold and Silver to gain Creatures within the Republick, since which time the Count *d' Avaux* understood so well to follow their Steps, that he out-did 'em. For that being Young, and a Courtier, he made his Love of Women serviceable to get him Admittance into certain Families that had some share in the Government; and there were few Cities where he had not his Creatures, who gave him Intelligence of all things that past in Council; and some there were, who like *Nicodemus*'s came to him by Night, not daring to appear in the day-time.

The Greatest Policy of *France* was always to foment Division between *England* and the United Provinces; afraid of nothing more then a good Correspondence and Union between the Two Puissances. Nor did she see any way more Probable to compass her Ends upon the United Provinces then by sticking close to *England*; which had fallen out luckily for her, during the two preceding Reigns while she amus'd those two Princes with Hopes of sharing in the Conquest. And upon this Score *Lewis* XIV. had very little trouble to perswade *James* the Second to close with him; for that in his Heart he was an Enemy to the United Provinces and the House of *Orange*; besides that he was beseig'd by the Monks and Jesuits, and particularly by Father *Peters*, who kept him under the awe of the *Ferula*, putting him in hopes of Great Rewards from Heaven, in case he would lend his

Helping

Helping hand to destroy the Hereticks; perswading him that the United Provinces were the Center of Heresie. So that he added to his private Hatred that Biggotry, which those Hypocrites of Monks continually blew in his Ears. And indeed, all Things were in a ready forwardness to recommence, in Conjunction with *France*, a new War against *Holland*. The King's Inclinations were altogether bent that way, and the Thing would have had the Effect desir'd, so soon as *James* the Second had once obtain'd to be Master of his Parliament, had abolish'd the Fundamental Laws of the Kingdom, and lay'd low the Heads of some of the principal Lords, the best Affected toward the Wellfare of the Kingdom, and the Preservation of the Privileges of the Nation. But the Revolution in *England* falling out so unexpectedly toward the end of the Year 1688 and the Year following, fended off the Blow, and broke all the Measures of those Two Princes; to which we may add, the rejecting of the Cardinal of *Furstenburgh* from being Archbishop of *Cologne*. All these Events, so contrary to the Expectation of *Lewis* XIV. very much contributed toward the Preservation of the *Low-Countries*. For there is no doubt but the Cardinal, who is a Man dangerous, turbulent, actuated by the Demon of *France*, to whom he has sold and devoted himself, since he withdrew himself from his Obedience to the Emperor, his lawful Sovereign, was introduc'd into the Chapter of *Cologne*, only to be the Tool and Organ, by whose means the Most Christian King might the more easily disturb the States of the United Provinces. But all these ways failing, tho' not his good Will, and finding he could not be assisted, either

by

by *Cologne*, nor *England*, nor by the Bishop of *Munster*, as in the preceding War, *France* could no longer contain her self, but under pretence of assisting King *James*, presently declar'd War, and fell upon the United Provinces, to prevent 'em from aggrandizing themselves by the sincere and strict Union which they were about to make between the King and Queen at present prosperously reigning. But in regard that frequently Revenge never considers the Danger to which it exposes it self for the satisfaction of its Rage, in like manner the King of *France* has drawn upon himself, all of a sudden, the the most numerous, and the soundest part of the Puissances of *Europe*, who will never lay down their Arms till he has made those Restitutions, which they shall think convenient for the Welfare of *Europe*; there being no other way of Reliance upon the Promises and Faith of the Most Christian King.

I believe that *Lewis* XIV. spake just according to the Sentiments of his Heart, when he happen'd one Day to say, *That he neither Fear'd nor Lov'd the Hollanders*, who nevertheless fill'd him full of Jealousies, and Fears, and often broke his Measures. And yet 'tis to that warlike Nation, that he is at this Day beholding for his having got the upper-hand of *Spain*: For as *France* formerly made use of the Hollanders to humble *Spain*, so the Spaniards are now glad of succour of the United Provinces to humble the Pride of *France*: And the Moderation and Flegm of the Hollanders, proves very effectual to abate the Fury of the French, which only affrights those that fear it, and are not acquainted with it.

In

In the Year 1672. the United Provinces alone made Head against the Two Potent Kings of *France* and *England*, were Victorious at Sea, and constrain'd the latter to make a Peace, and the other su'd for the Peace of *Nimeghen*. Tho' through a remisness injurious to the Honour of the Parties, the Plenipotentiaries, out of a Complyance not to be endur'd, suffer'd the slipping in of those Words, *That the King of* France *being desirous to restore Peace to* Europe, *&c.* Whereas it was he that begg'd for it, and made such Condescentions to the City of *Amsterdam*, that she consented to it; so that to speak properly, 'twas she, and not *Lewis* XIV. that *restored Peace to* Europe. But in regard it was made without any great Precautions, and without taking any other Guarranty, then the Sincerity of a Prince who never had any, therefore it lasted but a short while; and within the space of Six Years, the Peace-Restorer committed several Hostilities, took many Cities and Fortresses, so that there was need of a new Peace, and a Truce follow'd, to the end he might retain what he had usurp'd. Nor were all these Treaties Mounds sufficiently strong to restrain the impetuous Torrent. He breaks through all the Tyes of Sanctity and Religion, and falls upon *Philipsburgh*, the loss of which was attended with several other scurvy Inconveniences. Now upon what Foundation could the States of the United Provinces treat with a King that observ'd no Rule of common Morality, but broke his Faith, his Word, his Promise, even with the Emperor himself. Certain barbarous People, whom *Alexander the Great* would have oblig'd to swear Fidelity to him, return'd him answer, That they never swore any Oaths,

but

but gave their Word, which they kept inviolably; from whence I observe that they were not *French*.

The Ministry of the Court of *France* imagines with it self, that *Lewis* XIV. not having usurp'd any thing upon the Republick of the United Provinces, during the Peace, nor won any Place from her, during the War, that it would be always an easie thing for their Monarch to make a Peace with her: besides that, the Hollanders are greatly inclin'd to Peace, by reason of their Trade, which is much obstructed in time of War; neither is it the Interest of a Republick, to enlarge her Confines, or to add new Provinces to those she has already, but to preserve United what already she possesses, and to secure her Frontiers the best she can. But tho' *France* may be in the Right, as to some Circumstances, yet is she deceiv'd in the main: For it is not so easie to make a Peace with the Hollanders, as the King of *France* imagines. Those People, tho' naturally good-natur'd and easie, are not readily twice deluded. That Prudence which never forsakes the Counsels of their Soveraigns, has seen, by the Consequences of the Peace of *Nimeghen*, that there is no trusting to *France*; but that all her Promises and Treaties were only meer Amusements, that is to say, a sort of Recoiling to fetch the

greater Leap: he must be a very mean Politician, and very dull-sighted, who does not perceive, that *France* had a great mind to have made her self Mistress of the United Provinces, their Wealth, and their Religion; those three things so precious and so necessary, that the Inhabitants neither can nor ought to lose 'em, but with their Lives. And therefore as they ventur'd all to purchase those Blessings, so they will use their utmost Endeavours to preserve 'em, as the most precious Jewels of the Republick. For the Hollanders are not like King *James*, who left the care of his Crown to the Count of *Lausune*, while he ran away before the Battel of the *Boyne*, and before his Person was in any evident Danger.

France knows not as yet the strength of the United Provinces, as being ignorant of what she can do, if once she be hard put to it: Seeing that if they could find the way, not only to shake off the Chains of Servitude, but to make head for several Years against one of the most Potent, and one of the greatest Monarchs of *Europe*, *Philip* II. and come off with Honour, why should the Ministers of *France* flatter themselves under this Reign that they are able to destroy 'em? 'Tis only because Men are apt to flatter themselves that they can compass what they desire; and generally they never

care

care to be dis-abus'd, in regard that Hope supports, and in some measure, satisfies an ambitious Mind. Usually the Court of *France* is crowded with Flatterers, who make no other Prayers then for the Glory of their Monarch, and sing no other Hymns then in his Praise; all their Opera's sound forth the Grandeur and the Conquests of their new Deity, *Jupiter-Bourbon*. They perswade him that he was sent into the World to reign by himself, and to subdue all the People of the Earth under his Dominion; they have given him the Sirname of *Dieu-donné*, or *God's Gift*, and they make their Oblations to the immortal Man, *Viro Immortali*. To which purpose they have erected his Statue in the Piazza of *Victory*, at *Paris*, to the end that all his Subjects should pay the same Homages to his Figure as to his Person. Marshal *de la Fueillade* would needs pay it the first Honours: For being a Collonel of the Foot-Regiment of Guards, he march'd his whole Regiment before the Idol, saluted it with his Pike, and order'd all his Soldiers to salute it with a Royal Volley; insomuch that at first there was no Body durst pass by it, without some kind of Genuflexion. And by that Statue it is that Men may make a shrew'd Conjecture of the Design and good Intentions of *Lewis* XIV: since he had caus'd to be engrav'd upon the Pedestal of the Idol, the Hollanders,

as well as other Nations link'd and chain'd together like Slaves under his Feet. By which 'tis eaſie to diſcern, as in a Mirror, the very inſide of *Lewis* XIV. and his kind Intentions toward the United Provinces, in caſe he could attain his Ends. And he diſcover'd his wicked Purpoſes ſo openly, after he thought himſelf aſſur'd of King *James*, upon his Elevation to the Throne by the haſten'd Death of *Charles* II. that 'twas the publick Diſcourſe in the Court of *France*, how they were going to fall upon the Hollanders, and that they would drown their Provinces under Water, to the end they might never riſe again, to vex the King by their oppoſing his juſt Deſigns. This was the common Language of the Court, and he that ſhould have contradicted it, would have been Empal'd after the Turkiſh manner. I muſt confeſs, that at preſent they ſee with other Eyes at the French Court, and their Language is quite another thing. 'Tis the main Buſineſs of the Court at this time to flatter and careſs the Hollanders, by that means if ſhe can to diſburthen her ſelf of a War too ponderous for a Kingdom groaning under Famine and many other Calamities; and which are more likely to encreaſe then abate. So that if the United Provinces, together with the reſt of the Confederates, do but ſtand their ſtation, tho' they ſhould gain no ground upon the Enemy, *France* muſt

must be forc'd to condescend to what Conditions they please.

But say some of the more peaceful and quiet sort of People, what Assurances have we of being able to constrain the King who makes Head against all the Confederates, to restore to *Spain* so many Towns and Fortresses, and so well fortifi'd, which he has in his Hands, to the end the Hollanders may enlarge their Barriers? I answer, That in this War the King of *France* is in an Association with the Turk, who by the Diversion he makes, cuts out Work for the most considerable Forces of the Emperor and Empire: That the Ottoman Empire consists of a capricious and giddy-headed People, who have been several times of late, and indeed upon all the most considerable Occasions defeated, and that by consequence there is nothing of certainty for *France* to trust to on that side, who only sways the Port by the force of her Money, and a few frivolous Promises. So that there needs no more then an Insurrection of the People, or a humour of the Grand Signior, the Prime Visier, or the Mufti, to produce a Treaty of Peace and overturn all the Hopes of *France*. Besides, that if we do but consider the bottom of things, we shall find that this War which the Turk continues with so many Disadvantages, costs the French Year-

ly those Summs which they are unwilling to boast of. Secondly, *Lewis* XIV. alone by himself, is bound to pay and maintain above Four hundred thousand Men, to make head against his Enemies. Whereas the Confederates are not bound to keep so many Men in constant Pay; for the supply of which, every one bears his Proportion: nor does he that is most burthen'd bear a Fourth part of the Load of *France*. 'Tis true, the Body of the Confederates is a bulky Fabrick, but it moves upon several Engines which makes it go the surer. Now I dare maintain, that 'tis impossible for the King of *France*, to act alone by himself, above Six Years, as he does, against a Confederated Body, without ruining his People. At the long-run, the Soldier turns the Citizen out of his House, and reduces him to beggary for want of Trade: The Taxes devour that little which the Inhabitants have heap'd up during the Peace. The Treasury fails because the Springs are grown dry; the Merchant is ruin'd by his Losses. The Customs and Gabells, which were formerly the best and most ready Money the King had, by reason of the great quantity of Salt that us'd to be utter'd all over the Kingdom, must needs be very low, when People want Money to buy Bread more then Salt. And 'tis not long since that I heard one of the Farmers say, That the

Gabells

Gabells of Salt are fallen above half in half; and it is the same thing with all the other Farms in *France*. A Monarch without a full Exchequer, is like a Man without Hands and Eyes.

Of all the Soveraign Puissances at present in Confederacy with *France*, there is not any one can contribute more to her Ruine, then the United Provinces, and that two ways; the one by preventing all Commerce and all manner of Trade with *France*, and forbidding under severe Penalties the carrying of Provision and Corn to the Enemies Country; in regard that Merchants are greedy of Gain, and care not whether they supply Friends or Enemies: insomuch that 'tis said of some People, to express their Extraordinary Thirst after Profit, that if there were a Fair or Market in Hell, they would carry their Goods to the Infernal Gate, so they might put 'em off. The Other way to Ruine *France*, is to make themselves Masters of the Sea, which they might easily do in respect of the *French*, and by that means prevent any thing for going or coming out of the *French* Ports. Add to this, the Necessity that *France* is in to send for Horses into the United Provinces, to remount her Cavalry, which it is in the Power of the States with ease to prevent.

Besides all this, the United Provinces have had a vast advantage over *France* during the Continuance of this War, by the Trade which she has driven all along into the *Indies*, *Italy*, *Turky*, *Spain*, *England*, the *Baltick* Sea, *&c.* whereas the French have only *Italy* and *Turky* free to themselves: for if they will have any thing from the *Baltick* Sea, they must put up Swedish or Danish Colours to protect 'em from the English. On the other side, I must confess that several Merchants Ships of both Nations fall into the Hands of the French Capers, and a far greater Number then those that are taken either by Dutch or English. But then we must consider that there are a hundred English and Dutch Ships for one miserable French-man, continually trading upon the Sea; and many times our Capers meet with French Prizes that are hardly worth the Taking. Then again the Number of French Privateers surpasses double and Treble the Number of the Dutch; in regard that the French Merchants having nothing else to do with their Vessels, turn 'em all into Privateers, that so they may not lie idle. Insomuch that all the Ports of *France* are become Nests of Pyrates and Sea-rovers only. Nor do we find all this while that their ill-gotten Purchases enrich either the Soveraign or the People. For according

to the common Proverb, *That which is not with the Flute is spent with the Drum.* And therefore it is, that the Inhabitants of St. *Malo*'s and some other Ports of *France* are not a little troubled, that they have no better employment then to addict themselves to Pyracy; but their Trade with *Holland* and *Spain* being quite ruin'd for the present, they are constrain'd to turn Sea-rovers for their Subsistance.

Now then we may assure our selves that 'tis so far from being the Interest of *France* to ruine and destroy the United Provinces, that 'tis the Study of all her most serious Policy, to gain their Friendship, and inveigle 'em by fair Promises to accept a Peace, either separate or general, because the Intercourse between the two States in times of Peace, brings more Profit to *France* then all the rest of *Europe* besides. But this Peace is not to be obtain'd by *France* either from the United Provinces or from any other of the Confederates but upon safe Conditions. For to such a *Dilemma* has the Most Christian King reduc'd himself, by beginning an Unjust and Cruel War, neither provok'd nor compell'd to it by any other Motives then those of an Inordinate Ambition. So that it may be said of the Sun, which *Lewis* XIV. has made choice of for his *Impress*, that it resembles the Sun in *March*, which sets and

raises

raiſes the Humours of the Body, but has not Heat ſufficient to conſume their Malignity.

To ſay Truth, *France* may be look'd upon as one of the worſt Neighbours in the World: for ſhe lets no Prince alone that has the Misfortune to lie near her. So that after *Lorraine*, the *Spaniſh* Low-Countries and the United Provinces had felt the Effects of her Fury, ſhe began again to proſecute her Old Deſigns upon *Savoy*. And the Firſt courſe ſhe took to get footing in that Family, was by the means of ſeveral Matches with French Princeſſes, to the End ſhe might have her Spies and Creatures in the very Beds of thoſe Princes. For that is one of the moſt Refin'd Pieces of French Policy for the King to make the Matches himſelf and to give 'em their Dowry, to engage 'em the more Cordially to his Intereſts. And at the ſame time he ſends 'em home to their New Spouſes, full of Great Idea's of the Monarch of *France*, and the vaſt Obligations which they owe him, beſides that before their Departure, he cauſes 'em to Swear upon the Holy Evangeliſts, *That for the future they ſhall be abſolutely devoted to* France; *that they ſhall uphold the Intereſts of that Crown at all Times, and againſt all Perſons whatever, in the Courts where they reſide, and ſhall inform either him or his Miniſters of all that paſſes in their Husbands Cabinets,*

Cabinets; and blindly obey the Orders that are sent 'em by the King, or given by his Minister residing in the Court. And then there is no reason to wonder at the Troubles which *Henrietta Maria*, and *Christina*, the Daughters of *Hen.* IV. marry'd by *Lewis* XIII. into *England* and *Savoy*, occasion'd in those Countries. The first never ceasing till by her ill Conduct and exasperating her Husband to act contrary to the Laws of the Kingdom, she had brought *Charles* I. to an Untimely End; and her going into *England* may be said to be as it were the Source and Leaven of all the Misfortunes that ensu'd in our days.

Leaving *England*, take a view of the greatest part of all the other Courts of *Europe*, and you shall find French Princesses who play their Parts with the Louidores of *France*. In *Tuscany*, we have seen the present Grand Duke, that he might procure his own Peace at home, send a Bill of Divorce to the Grand Dutchess, his Wife, (who is a Princess of the House of *Orleance*) and return her back to *France*, to undergo the same hard Fortune as *Henrietta Maria*, wasting the remainder of her Days in a mean Condition, depending upon the Inconstant Humour of the King of *France*. To whom such a return cannot choose but be a tacit Reproach of the Misfortune befallen her

for upholding his Interests? But in regard that Large Consciences are all the Mode of the Court of *France*, they can never be injur'd by Petty Stings or little Kickings. If you look upon *Portugal*, you shall find there Mademoiselle *d'Aumale* marry'd to two Brothers one after another, tho' the first were alive at the time of the second Marriage. King *Alphonso* VI. somewhat morose by nature, and not willing to comply with the Counsels and Caresses of that Princess, the Court of *France* found a way to be rid of that Prince, who was banish'd to the Islands of *Tercera*, and his Marriage after dissolv'd by the Duke of *Mercœur*, the Queen's Uncle, made a Cardinal at the Solicitation of *France*, and sent Legate into *Portugal* with a design to cut the Nuptial knot (a Secret all this while unknown to the Pope, who was ignorant of the Contrivances of the French Court) and tho' that during the Three first Months of the Marriage it was given out that the Queen was with Child, yet they parted the Wedded Couple for all that, under pretence of Impotency, and marry'd her to *Don Pedro*, Successour to the Crown and her Husband's Brother; and if *Charles* II. of *England* would have consented to a Divorce between Him and Queen *Katherine*, the Court of *France* had design'd him the Princess of *Nevers*. *Spain* has several times experienc'd

to

to her cost, the fatal Consequences of Matches with *France*: and his Royal Highness of *Savoy* at present ruling, had been within a Finger's breadth of losing his Territories, had he pursu'd his Journey into *Portugal*, to espouse the Infanta, at the earnest Solicitation of the Princess his Mother who is a French Woman, and by the Perswasion and Management of the Court of *France*, who were very Industrious to procure that Match, on purpose to remove the Duke out of his Dominions, and oblige him to stay in *Portugal* in Hopes of a Crown, while *France* took the Opportunity to make himself Master of *Piemont* and *Savoy*.

France has been a long time contriving and studying for a favourable Pretence to colour the the Execution of this Design. *Henry* the Great in his time agreed with the Duke of *Savoy*, that upon his resigning up to him all the Pretensions that the Duke had in *Milanois*, he should oblige himself to conquer it, and afterwards exchange it for such Lands as the Duke held on this side the Mountains, which consist in *Geneveois*, all the Principality of *Nissa*, the County of *Foulligni*, and a part of *Savoy* as far as the *Alps*; to the end it might be in his Power to call himself Master from the *Pyreneans* to the *Alps*. But the Tragical End of *Hen.* IV. put a stop to that Enterprize. How-

ever it did not quench the greedy Thirſt of the Court of *France*, which was rather encreas'd then abated, as we have ſeen, by what was aim'd at by the Match with *Portugal*, which Heaven prevented by a Kind of Miracle, his Royal Highneſs having already taken leave of his Eſtates.

The Court of *France* has always ſo narrowly watch'd the Duke, that ſhe thought it impoſſible for him to eſcape her Trains, or to withdraw himſelf from the King's Pleaſure, who had ſo near a Relation at the Court of *Turin*, that he had Intelligence of every thing which was acted there, and of every Petty Reſolution that was taken; and the main Buſineſs was to hold the Duke under the King's *Ferula*; but above all, from holding any Correſpondence with the Houſe of *Auſtria*. And for proof of the Truth of this, it may be remember'd that the Duke of *Savoy* could not go for his Diverſion to *Venice* with his Electoral Highneſs of *Bavaria*, but he was follow'd and watch'd by the Envoy of *France*, who was then at his Court, and who knew ſo well to work and undermine with his Louidores, that he was inform'd of all that paſt at that Interview. Which gave the Firſt Occaſion that Kindl'd the Fire of the War at preſent between *France* and *Savoy*. And tho' there be

a great disproportion between the two Contenders, nevertheless the Duke gives no small disturbance and trouble to the Court of *France*, whether it be by the Alliances which the Duke has enter'd into, or by the Constitution of the Italian Climate, which has always cost *France* a world of Men, as having been always call'd the *Church-yard* for the French; and notwithstanding the inequality of Puissance, the King has been constrain'd to keep up a numerous and chargeable Army on that side, to which he is oblig'd to send, at vast Expences out of the *Dauphinate* and *Provence*, his Ammunition and Provision, for their Subsistance. Moreover *France* never imagin'd that the Duke of *Savoy* could or durst have undertaken any thing againſt her. For which reason the Policy of *France* ne'er thought it worth while to fortifie her Frontiers on that side, to prevent in time of War the *Savoyards* from entring into *Provence* and the *Dauphinate*. Nor was ever the King more surpriz'd, or madder, then when he heard that the Confederates had got footing in those two Provinces. So that had it not been for the Accident that befell his Royal Highness, and the unhappy Consequences of his confiding too much in the Jesuits of *Ambrun*, which was in part the Cause of the Return of his Army, certain it is that the Duke had enter'd Victorious into *Grenoble*.

The

The Dread of his March reach'd not only to *Lions*, but as far as *Pisa*. A good part of the Inhabitants of the *Dauphiné* and *Provence* had already quitted their Country, but the Greatest part impatiently waited for the Conqueror's coming to deliver them out of their Misery, and break their Chains: but they were frustrated in their Hopes for the Reasons above mention'd. The Court of *France* always flatter'd her self till now, that if she restor'd to the Duke of *Savoy* some Town that she had taken from him, that he would be glad to renew his Alliance with her: Nay, she believ'd it an Honour which he would sue for; but she found her self deceiv'd. For she met with a Haughty and undaunted Prince, who would not listen to any Proposals that tended to disunite him from his Confederates: and besides, knowing *France* too well, his Royal Highness was absolutely convinc'd, that there was no relying upon the Promises and Word of a King, much less upon the Faith of his Ministers, who glory in deceiving those with whom they have to deal, if any Benefit redounds from thence to *France*. The Court of *France* had her Aim and her Prospects in her Offers which she made last to the Duke of *Savoy*, and it was the Strife of her Policy to bring him off from the Confederates, and to have render'd him liable to their Ill Opinion; who would doubtless

leſs have abandon'd him, and thereby have left *France* at her Liberty to have invaded his Country. For ſhould *France* reſign to the Duke all the Places ſhe had taken from him, but keep *Pignerol* and *Caſal* in his Hands, that were ſtill no more then lying always between the Hammer and the Anvil. His Royal Highneſs therefore having drawn his Sword againſt *France*, that continually oppreſs'd him, it behoves him never to ſheath it again, till he has procur'd his full Freedom, and ſecur'd himſelf from future Dangers, ſeeing he may well expect to be ſincerely ſuccour'd by the Confederates, who never will forſake him, but always ſtick by him as hitherto they have done. So much the rather, becauſe they may be able in caſe the Catholick King dyes without Iſſue, to ſeat him in a better Station, to which he has already Great Pretenſions by the Marriage of *Charles Emanuel*, in the Year 1561. with *Katherine*, Infanta of *Spain*, the Daughter of *Philip* II. So that by the Addition of *Piemont* to *Milanois*, he may take upon him the Name and Title of King of *Lombardy*: Which is an Advantage he can never attain to, if he depart from the Intereſts of the Houſe of *Auſtria*, to embrace the Promiſes of *France*, which early or late will deceive him.

'Tis never to be thought that *France* will

ever mend, or that ſhe will act for the future with more Fidelity then hitherto ſhe has done. To truſt to her, would be for a Man to put a willing Cheat upon himſelf. The Blackmoor can never change his Skin, nor the Leopard alter his Spots: So *France* can never help her Uſurping upon her Neighbours: Ambition is an inveterate Diſeaſe that has ſeiz'd her, never to be Cured, but by the Proſperity of the Confederates. I know very well that they flatter his Highneſs with a Match between the Duke of *Burgundy* (the Dauphin's Eldeſt Son, and who in his Turn may wear the Diadem of *France*) with one of the Young Princeſſes of *Savoy*: but this is ſtill to caſt Oyl into the Fire, and give *France* a New Handle to lay hold on, who is ready enough to graſp all Advantages without giving her an Opportunity. Theſe are Baits, which the Emiſſaries of *France* throw about at a venture, to try whether they will take or no. If not, however it fails not to make ſome Impreſſion in the Breaſts of the Ladies, who being Members of the Frail Sex, eaſily fall into the Snare, and willingly feed themſelves with worldly Honours, never conſidering what they will coſt 'em, nor the Dangers that attend 'em.

The Antipathy between the *Danes* and *Swedes*, whether it proceeds from any Hatred

of

of the two Nations one of another, or from Intereſt of Trade, by reaſon that the Dominions of Both Kings lie ſo cloſe together, has in ſome meaſure parallel'd 'em with *France* and *Spain*. Which is the Reaſon that the King of *France* has always endeavour'd to procure their Amity, or at leaſt to have the one or the other on his ſide. And this has been his Care all along during this War, which began in 1672. at what time *Sweden* declar'd openly for *France*. Tho' he repented of it afterwards; whether it were by reaſon of his Ill Succeſs and the Advantage of the Electour of *Brandenburgh*, during that War, or the Infidelity of the Court of *France*, ſo far from obſerving her Word, that ſhe never pay'd the Money which ſhe promis'd to that Crown, but on the other ſide depriv'd the Northern Prince of his Dutchy of *Deux Ponts*. Which ill Uſage loſt the French all their Credit in the Court of *Sweden*, where they were afterwards look'd upon as Cheats: inſomuch that the Good Correſpondence formerly between thoſe two Nations turn'd into Hatred and Scorn. After this Change, in regard the Policy of *France* found it Convenient to have one of theſe two Northern Princes tack'd to her Intereſts, ſhe caſt her Affection upon *Danemark*, and ſo well ply'd the Miniſters of that Court with her Louidores, that now ſhe governs 'em as ſhe

Pleaſes, and makes 'em daunce to the French Ayres. I muſt acknowledge that the King of *France* pays the Violins, but ſtill *Lewis* XIV. has the Pleaſure to ſee the *Danes* dance and foot it to his advantage. The Siege of *Ratzenburgh* coſt *France* Three hunder'd Thouſand Crowns, which were pay'd at *Hamborough*, upon throwing the Firſt Bomb into that Fortreſs. For the Policy of the Court of *France* would needs venture that Summ at a time when ſhe had little reaſon to have ſpar'd it, in hopes that this Siege would have made a notable Diverſion, and that all the Princes of the Houſe of *Luneburg* would have recall'd all their Forces from the *Low-Countries* and the *Rhine*, to defend that Place. But here the French were cully'd by the Danes. For the Difference was made up between both Parties, *France* not being able to prevent the Reconciliation, which ſeem'd to her, to have been Impoſſible. But this is not the Firſt Attempt of the Court of *France* that has come to nothing: So that it cannot be ſaid that ſhe takes her meaſures ſo truly as never to be miſtaken; as her Emiſſaries give out with high applauſe. For to hear them Chatter, a man would ſwear that the Reſolves of the Cabinet of their Great Monarch were the Decrees of Heaven that never err; which *France* does often and more frequently then ſhe would her ſelf.

In

In the Preſent Conjuncture, *France* ready to ſink under the Burthen of a Long & Chargeable War, makes uſe of *Daniſh* Flags and Veſſels, to get Corn and Naval Stores for her Men of War. In ſhort, at preſent ſhe embraces the *Danes* whom ſhe contemn'd before, as her only Patrons and Deliverers to whom ſhe can have Recourſe: and ſhe would fain have the King of *Danemark* declare War againſt the United Provinces. The Miniſter of *France* reſiding at *Coppenhaghen*, is continually beating his Brains day and night, to furniſh the *Daniſh* Miniſters with Pretences to begin a Rupture; he promiſes Ships and Money to aſſiſt 'em, and that tho' it ſhould be their Misfortune to come by the worſt, yet upon the making of the Peace he would never forſake 'em, no more then he did the *Swede* when the Peace of *Nimeghen* was concluded. The Louidores of *France* are moſt alluring Baits at the Court of *Coppenhaghen*, but their Intereſt ſo undeniably requires 'em to hold a good Correſpondence with the *Hollanders* rather then with any other Nation, that only that Conſideration out-ballances all the Golden Perſuaſions of the French Embaſſadour *Bonrepos*; who having quitted his Religion to pleaſe his Maſter, labours by all the Artifices of Fallacy and Deceit, to become ſerviceable to him, in

acknowledgment of the Honour done him in ſending him upon an Embaſſy for which he thought him a more fit Perſon then any Body elſe, by reaſon of his Employment in the Sea Affairs under the Marquis of *Segnalai*.

But that which moſt embarraſes *France* and *Danemark* both together, is this, that *Swedeland*, which is the far more potent Kingdom of the two, being engag'd in a ſtrict Alliance with the Emperor and the United Provinces, and having alſo Pretenſions to *Danemark*, will not be wanting to croſs the Enterprizes of the Daniſh King, who, all things being conſider'd, can ne'er hope for any great Aſſiſtance from the French, in the Preſent Conjuncture. Moreover ſuch is the Jealouſie between thoſe two Nations upon the ſcore of Trade, that the *Danes* are always afraid leaſt the *Swedes* ſhould be too hard for 'em, and agree with the *Hollanders* to furniſh 'em with all the Wood and other Naval Stores, which otherwiſe they fetch from *Danemark*, and which would be a loſs to 'em that *France* would never be able to repair.

If the King of *France* cannot oblige *Danemark* to break with the United Provinces, he is bound at leaſt to procure as much Succour as he can from the North, and to make uſe

of

of Daniſh Colours, to paſs freely without moleſtation, with promiſe to reimburſe all the Loſſes which the *Danes* ſhall ſuſtain by their Protection: in regard the Daniſh Miniſters readily foreſee that ſo great a Number of Paſſports which they give, for Money, to all Veſſels, and all ſorts of Nations that deſire 'em, muſt at length open the Eyes of the Confederates, and force 'em to put a ſtop to a Trade that only ſerves to carry Counterband Goods into *France*, contrary to Juſtice and Reaſon, and to the prejudice of the Treaties. *Bonrepos* does all he can to continue this Game, and he keeps by him whole Reams of Blank Paſſports, to fill 'em up in favour of thoſe who deſire 'em; and to encourge 'em to ſail for *France* he gives 'em to ſome, and promiſes 'em to others, and bequeaths himſelf a hunder'd Times a day to the Devil to aſſure 'em of the Honeſty and Sincerity of his Maſter. In ſhort, that Embaſſadour takes a world of Pains; ſo that if he ſucceed in his Negotiation, the King his Maſter may well beſtow upon him the Collar of the Order of St. *Lewis*, in recompence of his Toil and Labour, and in exchange for his Religion.

The Count *d'Avaux*, a Cunning and Crafty Miniſter, at preſent the French Embaſſadour at *Sweden*, is ſo well known in the World, that

that we ſhould do him wrong to write his Panegyrick. He acted his part ſo well during his Embaſſy at the *Hague*, that his Maſter ſent him to King *James* to aſſiſt him with his Counſel during the Heroick Expedition of that Prince in *Ireland*. His Inſtructions are not altogether the ſame with thoſe of *Bonrepos*'s at *Coppenhaghen*, becauſe thoſe two Courts are not both of one Opinion; and for that the Promiſes of *France* have not that Reputation at *Stockholm* as at *Coppenhaghen*. And therefore while *Bonrepos* preſſes the *Danes* to a Rupture, *d'Avaux* only ſollicits the Court of *Sweden* to ſtand Neuter, and to continue their Trade with *France*, or inſtead of that, to grant Paſsports to ſuch as ſhall deſire 'em, to the end that *Sweden* and *Danemark* may be equally concern'd, in caſe the Confederates ſhould take diſguſt at the Great Number which the *Danes* give out to all Commers. And indeed it is to be ſaid, to the Praiſe of *Sweden*, that that Crown has always acted ſincerely with her Confederates, and even with *France* it ſelf, at a time when *Sweden* could not have reap'd any great Advantages by a Correſpondence with her; and when no leſs ſedulous Endeavours were us'd to have drawn off the Court of *Sweden* from her. *France* has always courted *Sweden*, to remove the Obſtacles that continually lie in her way: which is the Reaſon of that

Infidelity

Infidelity of the French, who break with their Allies at all times, when the Humour takes 'em; and well understand that *Sweden*, being so potent and considerable, is able to counterpoize Affairs, provided she will but concern her self: For in that respect she has always observ'd a very prudent Conduct, neither does she approve all the Invasions of the French. She knows the Truth of what M. *Lyonne* reports in his Memoirs, where he says, *That there is not any State, which is not bound to oppose the Aggrandizement of the Court of* France; *and* Sweden *above all the rest, seeing that if the King had taken the Low-Countries, he would have taken no further notice of her, as believing he had no more Occasion for her.* This is a solid Expression and to the purpose, and ought to make a deep Impression in the minds of those who have prejudice against the Court of *Sweden*, either deluded by the Flatteries of the Ministers of *France*, or some base and sordid Interest of their own, which greatly prevails in the world, and leads a world of People astray. But certain it is, that *Sweden* has long since sounded the Ambition and Arms of *France*, more especially at the Peace of *Osnabrug*; and if at any time she hearkens to the Ministers of *France*, 'tis without doubt because she finds some little pleasure in draining *France*, and doing her but little Good.

'Tis

'Tis alſo certain and viſible that the Miniſters of *Sweden* and *Denemark*, who reſide in Foreign Courts, and more eſpecially in thoſe of the Confederates, are frequently and vigorouſly aſſail'd by the Emiſſaries of the French, on purpoſe to fiſh out, how Squares go among the Confederates, and may well retort upon the French Satans, the Words of the Lord's Prayer, *Lead us not into Temptation, but deliver from Evil*: but above all, from the Evil Spirits of *France*, that continually environ us. For indeed a man ought to be ſhod with Froſt-Nails, to preſerve himſelf from falling in ſuch ſlippery Ground, and he that can ſurmount thoſe Temptations, may well be number'd in the Catalogue of Upright Miniſters, and Faithful to the Intereſts of his Maſter.

Corruption or Bribery is now a General Miſchief in the world, but never any advanc'd the Price of it ſo high as the King of *France*: for moſt certain it is, that that one ſingle Expence amounts to above Twenty Millions a Year. For it is a Thing paſt all diſpute, that *France* upholds her ſelf more by her Gold then by her Sword. 'Tis true, ſhe is many times put to her Plunges in time of War, which dreins her Exchequer, and enforces her to advance her Coin; by which ſhe gains conſi-

derably.

derably. Formerly inſtead of enhauncing her Money, *France* made uſe of another Stratagem, which was to coin Louidores rais'd in value, but mix'd with a baſer Alloy then thoſe that went current in the Kingdom, which were diſtinguiſh'd by a little Mark quite different from others. And ſome there are in the Court of *Denemark*, who if they durſt own the Thing, could bring a Cloud of Witneſſes to make it out; as having experienc'd upon ſeveral Occaſions the full ſwing that French Knavery allow'd it ſelf. I know likewiſe, that the Thing was murmur'd at, but the Cheat paſs'd for that time, upon promiſe of doing better the next time. Therefore *Charles* II. King of *England*, who was well acquainted with the Knavery of *France* when he receiv'd any French Penſion, which was uſually pay'd him in Louidores, order'd the Receivers to cut 'em in two pieces, to ſee what Mettal they were made of; and then caus'd 'em to be refin'd into Guinea's. So natural it is for the Court of *France*, not to leave any Cheat omitted to defraud all thoſe that relie upon her.

As for *Poland*, in regard it is a Kingdom remote from *France*, it can do her neither any great Good, nor any great Harm; nor is there much Trade or much Communication between

between the Two Nations. Corn is the Only Merchandize wherein *Poland* abounds, and which it Tranſports from *Dantzick* into Foreign Countries. But the Kings of *Poland* may in ſome meaſure ſometimes be profitable to the Deſigns of *France*, tho' it were only to moleſt the Emperour in many occaſions that may and frequently do fall out. For this Reaſon the King of *France* takes Great Care to ſend an Embaſſadour with Money to the Dyets, upon the Election of a New King; or elſe if they are not marry'd, to offer 'em a Princeſs born in *France*; and 'tis very probable that the French Embaſſadour *Beauvais*, and Cardinal *Fourbin*, who was then at the Dyet in *Poland*, contributed very much to the Election of the Preſent King; for which he has not been ungrateful. However he was guilty of two Bold Strokes, which tho' they were greatly for his Honour, were no way delightful to *France*. The Firſt was the King of *Poland*'s March to the Relief of *Vienna*, which was effectually perform'd with the loſs of 60000 *Turks* to the great Grief of *Lewis* XIV. and contrary to his Expectation and his Wiſhes. And tho' ſome Remains of *Decorum* and Honour retain'd the Court of *France* from openly diſplaying her Reſentment, yet the Silence of the French diſcover'd how much they were vex'd and mortify'd by it, at a time when all

Europe

Europe resounded with loud Acclamations of Joy and Gladness, and all the Churches, with Thanks givings to Heaven. Only the Sorrow of *France* notoriously display'd it self, by her Prohibiting the Bishops of the Conquer'd Cities in the Low-Countries to suffer *Te Deums* to be sung within their Dioceses.

The second Blow which his Majesty of *Poland* gave to the Contrivances of *France*, was the Marriage of Prince *James* to one of the Princesses of *Newburgh*, Sister to the Empress, notwithstanding all the Oppositions of the French Ministers, and particularly of the Marquis of *Arquin* the Queen's Father; wherein the Contests grew so high, that the King of *France* order'd one of his Ministers to tell his Majesty of *Poland*, That since he could not hinder the Marriage, he would hinder the Prince from being King. But in these two Affairs the *Polanders* were guided by their real Interests; which was to bring down and ruine the *Turks*, their sworn Enemy and near Neighbour, as also assure to themselves the Amity and Alliance of the Emperour, and the Imperial Protection for the Prince his Son, when the Throne should become vacant.

But if the King of *France* prov'd unsuccessful in the main, he has had his satisfaction in Part.

For

For it is visible that his Intrigues in the Court of *Poland* have a long time hinder'd his Polish Majesty from being Master of *Caminieck*: for what could else have hinder'd him but the French Louidores? more especially seeing the *Polanders*, ever since this War have had only to deal with a beaten, bassl'd Enemy, whom their Prince had defeated, and forc'd to rise from before the Walls of *Vienna* with Ignominy and a Prodigious Slaughter. Nevertheless these Great Advantages produc'd no great Effect; tho' the Pope still continu'd his Supplies of Money to carry on the War. But the reason is plain: for the Pernicious Policy of the Court of *France*, who was resolv'd to march to the Succour of the *Turk*, her dear Confederate, wrought so powerfully at the Court of *Poland*, by means of the Queen, and Great Presents, that the Louidores which tarnish'd the Honour of *Poland*, surmounted the Pope's Piety and his charitable Assistance both together. Moreover, the King of *Poland* being naturally Thrifty, and rightly judging that the Prince his Son may one day have need of ready Money, to hoist him into the Throne, had so much power over himself, and so much presence of Mind as to keep both the Assistance of *Rome*, and the French Pension. His Majesty of *Poland* who is a wise and an understanding Prince, knows also that Money is a good

Moveable

Moveable at a time of Need, and by a Knack of Prudence, the Criticks may call it Pitiful, Mechanick, and below himſelf if they pleaſe, he provides an Apple againſt he comes to be adry. But if this be the King's Weakneſs, 'tis the Strength of the Prince his Son.

The Policy of *France* has this particular Gift, that it carefully ſtudies the Inclination of Princes, the weak ſides, and where lies the ſtrength of thoſe Courts into which ſhe ſtrives to introduce her ſelf, and get to be Miſtreſs of Miſrule. Thither ſhe ſends ſuch Perſons as are proper for the Genius of the People, either as Publick Miniſters, or private Spies. For Example, to ſend to the Courts of *Italy*, where Gallantry and Courtſhip abounds, ſuch Perſons whoſe Principal Vertue conſiſts in hard Drinking, would be an Idle Thing, and ſpoil all. No, the Court of *France* is more refin'dly cunning then ſo; ſhe reſerves her Lovers of *Bacchus*'s Liquor for the Courts of *Germany*, where the Temper of the Climate induces the People to drink, on purpoſe to ſteel their Bodies againſt Cold Weather, and there it is that frequently between the Pear and the Cheeſe, they ſtrike the Home-ſtrokes and do their Buſineſs, when the Wine has warm'd their Courage. As for the Court of *Poland*, 'tis a Place where neither Courtſhip nor the Pleaſures of the Table

Table are predominant, but the Powder of Gold prevails with a witneſs; and indeed not only there, but in moſt part of the Courts of *Europe*. There are few Courtiers and fewer Women, ſo void of Ambition as to be proof againſt the Attacks of Money: I mean, that can refuſe to embrace his Intereſts, who courts 'em in Showers of Louidores. They are ſuch Irreſiſtible Temptations to thoſe that are ſhort of Money, as it uſually happens in the Court of *Poland*, where Money does not tumble about proportionable to the Expence, and where the Courtiers are not ſo thrifty as the King. The French Men and French Women, who generally affect a Port anſwerable to the Grandeur of their Prince, many times ſacrifice their Fortunes and their Honour, to render themſelves uſeful to their Country; and ſuch are eaſily gain'd: A Director of Conſcience works Miracles upon the Minds of ſuch People: and therefore the Policy of *France* is very Careful to maintain French, both Men and Women, in the Court of *Poland*; and the Miniſters of *France* are ſo dextrous as to recommend French Men to ſerve him, with the Character of Publick Miniſters in Foreign Courts, without any Expence to his Poliſh Majeſty; while *France* takes care to provide 'em a Maintenance; and by that means, the Court of *France* is inform'd of all that paſſes,

not

not only in respect of the Affairs of *Poland*, but also of all that comes to the knowledge of the Ministers in those Courts where they reside: those Ministers having sold themselves to *France*, and only acting and actuated by the Spirit and Counsel of *France* their Benefactress. As we have seen by Experience at the *Hague*, during the Residence of the Sieur *Moreau*; and of which the Proceedings against *Grandval* and *Demont* are authentick Proofs. We ought to be convinc'd, that *France* would never have pay'd those Ministers, but that she receiv'd some Benefit by 'em; more particularly in a time of War, when she cannot send Embassadours to Princes in Confederacy against Her. For tho' that *France* has not any publick Minister in the Courts of her Enemies, nevertheless we find she is inform'd of every thing that passes there; she neglects nothing, but makes a dextrous Use of the Weak side of Princes that are willing to listen to her, and takes her Advantage of all Opportunities. 'Tis the chiefest, and indeed the Main Policy of *France*, to surprize her Friends, as well as her Enemies; and therefore they had need be always upon their Guard, and always distrustful of whatever *France* proposes to 'em.

The Kingdom of *Portugal* since the loss of the Battel in 1578. was possess'd by the *Moors*,

and after that by the *Spaniards* till the Year 1641. at what time *John* of *Braganſa*, aſſiſted by *France*, and being the next Heir to the Crown, was declar'd King of *Portugal*; after a general Revolt of the Kingdom, which not being able any longer to endure the Oppreſſion of the *Spaniards*, ſhook off their Yoke under the Reign of *Philip* IV. The Kings of *Spain* always thought they had an Ample Right to *Portugal*, by vertue of a Donation from the Cardinal of *Portugal* the lawful Heir of the Crown after the Death of King *Sebaſtian*, his Brother, who dy'd without Iſſue. That Cardinal being unwilling to quit the Prieſthood, was puſh'd forward by the Sollicitations of the Jeſuits, who beſieg'd him in ſuch a manner, that they never let him reſt, till he had made a Donation of the Kingdom of *Portugal* to *Philip* II. King of *Spain*; which could not be done to the Prejudice of the Lawful Heirs, whom the *Spaniards*, contrary to their Politicks, ſuffer'd to live and grow up in *Portugal*. Nor did they lie aſleep, but lay'd hold of the firſt Opportunity, as has been already ſaid. And certain it is, that *France*, ſpurr'd on by her own Intereſt, contributed toward it with all her Power: for indeed the Policy of *France* requiring the pulling down and ruine of *Spain*, ſhe could not take a better Courſe, then to diſmember and rend a whole Kingdom from the

the *Spaniſh* Puiſſance; in regard that *Spain* decreaſing in Dominions and Revenues, muſt needs decreaſe in Strength.

France, during the Reign of *Lewis* XIII. and the Minority of *Lewis* XIV. had great cauſe to fear the Strength of *Spain*, but very little, to be afraid of the Strength of *Portugal*, tho' ſeparated from *Spain*. Quite the contrary, *Portugal* might well make uſe of *France* to moleſt *Spain*, which viſibly decreas'd, and perhaps will never be in a Condition again to pull that Thorn out of her Foot; and to reduce *Portugal* under her Obedience. For after that Revolution which follow'd that of the Low-Countries, *Spain* languiſh'd away by degrees, and *Portugal* encreas'd both in Strength and Riches, and is become ſo Potent, that alone by her ſelf ſhe can make head againſt *Spain*, which at this day reſembles a ſtrong Man conſum'd and waſted by Inward Sickneſs and Diſtempers, and eaſily overturn'd by the puny ſtrength of a Child.

The *Portuguezes* therefore, who are good Politicians, underſtanding their own Intereſt, leagu'd themſelves with the Greateſt Enemies of the *Spaniards*, that is to ſay, the *Engliſh* and *French*, who in a time of neceſſity might openly declare for 'em, if *Spain* ſhould hap-

pen to be in a Condition to attack 'em. But now *Portugal* has no need of Aſſiſtance againſt *Spain*; much rather ſhe ought to fortifie her ſelf againſt *France*, which in this Reign has look'd with a Covetous Eye upon the Wealth that arrives at *Lisbon* from the *Eaſt* and and *Weſt Indies*; and I am perſwaded, that the Court of *Portugal* is truly convinc'd of it. Which was the reaſon that enduc'd 'em, to the no ſmall Vexation of *France*, to ſeek the Friendſhip and Alliance of the Houſe of *Auſtria*, by the Marriage of *Don Pedro* to the Princeſs of *Nieuburg*.

However the Policy of *France*, that underſtands without all doubt the Deſign of the *Portuguezes*, is careful at preſent to embrace the Friendſhip of the King of *Portugal*, to the end that during the War ſhe may have the free uſe of his Ports, to fetch Proviſions and Neceſſaries which ſhe can have no where elſe. And we have ſeen, not long ſince, that the French Men of War wanting Seamen, and fearing to be attack'd by the Engliſh and Hollanders, ſupply'd themſelves from the Coaſts of *Portugal*. So that conſidering the Need which the French have of the *Portuguezes*, would *Don Pedro* and his Council make the beſt of ſo favourable an Opportunity, there is no doubt but the Houſe of *Auſtria*, would grant him very Advantageous

geous Conditions, in case the Portuguezes would joyn with the Confederates, and declare War against *France*. And her Interest advises her to it; for that if the *Dauphin*, after the death of the Catholick King, should get the upper hand in *Spain*, there's no question to be made but he would revive the Pretensions of *Alphonso* King of *Arragon*, and *Philip* II. King of *Spain*: for by the same reason that formerly the Policy of *France* requir'd her to support *Portugal*, it would be then her Interest to ruine & make her self Master of it. 'Twere well that all the other Courts of *Europe* would do as *France* does, who foresees things at a Great Distance, and continually builds Designs upon a Basis of Probable Futurity: and for fear of being deceiv'd, usually forms three or four Contrivances which way to bring about one and the same Thing; so that if one fail, another may hold. This is a Piece of Human Prudence that not only prevents Surprize, but shews the way to undertake several Enterprizes, which else a Man would never have thought of. 'Tis a Maxim to be observ'd by all Sovereigns, to mistrust even their neerest Allies, and so to act, as if they were just ready to come to a Rupture; more especially they that border upon *France*, that never observes Peace or Treaty any longer then she finds it for her Convenience.

The City of *Paris* abounds in Persons full of Curiosity and Invention. Among the rest, there are a Great Number of old Practitioners, who employ their Wits, to get Money, in searching for Claims and Rights in Old Parchments, a good part of which has serv'd to feed the Rats and Mice, and to invent and set up Titles: so that if they are but largely pay'd, they will prove their Benefactors Descent from the Royal Race, tho' before that, he could hardly reckon a Groom among all his Predecessors. These Antiquaries tell yee, that *Portugal* is deriv'd from *Portus Gallorum*. Thus you you see a Foundation lay'd for the French to pretend, that *Portugal* belongs to *France*. Moreover there are still to be seen among the Archives certain Ancient Registers (or if they are not there, they can find 'em elsewhere) containing the Expences that *France* was at some Ages since, in assisting the Portuguezes against the Moors of *Castile* and *Andalusia*, in the Reign of King *Henry*, who was of the House of *Lorrain*, and marry'd the Natural Daughter of *Alphonso* King of *Arragon*, who gave him an Army to conquer *Portugal*, or *Lusitania*, from the Moors. Now there would not need so much, were this Affair once brought before the Tribunal of *Metz*, which is the Soveraign and Irrevocable Court of Judicature to determine

termine the Right of the Dependences and Appendences of *France*. However the Germans would have the firſt Right; in regard it was to the aſſiſtance of that War-like Nation that *Henry* was beholding for the Conqueſt of *Luſitania*, as alſo of *Algarva*, which is the reaſon that the Germans enjoy ſuch Privileges all over *Portugal*: But here's the Miſchief of it, that if the Caſe ſhould come to be argu'd before the Deſpotick Tribunal of *Metz* between the *Germans* and *France*, that Court would never do the *Germans* Juſtice.

As for the *Switzers*, they are compos'd of Thirteen Cantons, which are as it were ſo many Separate Provinces, free and independent one from another. Theſe Cantons having withdrawn themſelves from their Subjection to the Emperour, by reaſon of the hard uſage which they ſuffer'd under the German Governours, bethought themſelves of a Democratick Government, which they have upheld till this preſent time after they had ſuſtain'd ſeveral tedious Wars, and fought a great number of Battels, always Victorious, protected by Heaven, and by that means becoming ſo powerful as to be ſought to by the Emperour and the Neighbouring Princes. They very rarely ſent Embaſſadours to the Potentates, their Confederates, unleſs it were to renew an Al-

liance, or upon ſome Extraordinary Occaſion However the ſame Princes have generally their Miniſters reſiding among them, but more-eſpecially *France*, whoſe Embaſſadour keeps his Station at *Soleurre*, tho' it be one of the meaneſt Cantons, and that *Berne* be one of the moſt powerful and the largeſt: for which we ſhall give the Reaſon in due Place.

Any Prince who deſires the Aſſembling of a Dyet in *Switzerland*, muſt requeſt it by his Embaſſadour or Miniſter there reſiding; but he muſt pay for it: and therefore they never refuſe it to thoſe that deſire the Meeting, which would not elſe be ſummon'd, and conſequently there would be no notice taken of the Buſineſs there intended to be propos'd. This ſame Coldneſs, natural to the *Switzers*, makes me believe, that that Nation cares not ſo much for the Friendſhip of their Confederates, as for their Money. However it be, this muſt be agreed in their behalf, that they are not only faithful to what they promiſe, but ſtout upon all occaſions, as we may ſee by fourteen Battels which they fought with the Emperour *Ferderick*, and three others which they won from *Charles the Bold*, the laſt Duke of *Burgundy*, and all the Brave Atchievements which they perform'd in *Italy*, as well for, as againſt *France*, under the Reign of *Charles* the VIII. *Lewis* XII, and

and *Francis* I. And for that reaſon it is, that ſince that time the Greateſt Potentates of *Europe* have always ſought their Friendſhip and their Alliance; and that the French have careſs'd 'em with a great deal of Artifice and Money; not ſo much out of any Kindneſs which the French have for the Switzers, or for the need which they have of their Men in time of Peace, but for fear leaſt the Cantons ſhould enter into a Solemn Engagement with the Houſe of *Auſtria*. For which reaſon *France* is careful to ſtipulate in all the Treaties which ſhe renews with the Cantons, that they ſhall not ſend above ſuch a number of Men to any other Foreign Princes, and thoſe only for the Guards of their Bodies.

The Embaſſadour of *France* has made choice of *Soleurre* for the Place of his Abode, becauſe the Inhabitants of that Canton are all zealous Roman Catholicks; who pin their Faith with great Submiſſion upon the Sincerity of their Curate: and the Embaſſadour reſides here, to ſhew the Particular Honour which his Maſter has for the Roman Catholick Cantons, above the Evangelick, and that the Monks and Prieſts may have free Acceſs to him, who bear a great Sway among the Catholicks. Moreover, the little Summs of Money which the Embaſſadour ſcatters a-

mong

mong the Chief of 'em, procure him Creatures, that ſtill will be inclin'd to the Intereſts of *France*, and readily ſtoop to the Lure. And by this means it was, that the French got leave to build the Fortreſs of *Huningben*, which as long as it ſtands, will be a Hook in the Noſes of the Inhabitants of *Bale*, to lead 'em which way the Policy of *France* ſhall judge moſt convenient for her purpoſes. Nor is it long ſince the Governour of that Fortreſs made an Eſſay whether the Cannon of that Place would reach as far as the City, that he might take his Meaſures accordingly. For whatſoever Proteſtations of Friendſhip *France* at preſent makes to the Cantons, *Lewis* the XIV. had rather be their Soveraign, then their Confederate; that Monarch has a long time caſt a Covetous Eye upon *Bale* and *Geneva*, and had e're this, been Maſter of 'em, had not other Conſiderations kept him within Bounds; and were he once Maſter of thoſe Barricado's of *Switzerland*, the reſt would ſoon be expos'd to the Misfortune of lying fit for his Convenience. He is a Fox; but he has Lyon's Claws; and he makes uſe of his Head to deceive the Catholick Cantons, under the Specious Pretence of Propagating Catholicity; but he reſerves his Paws for the Proteſtant Cantons.

There

There is no queſtion, but that among the Switzers, among whom there are ſome who have travell'd and ſeen the World, there are to be found ſeveral Perſons ſufficiently quick-ſighted & Politick, and ſuch as underſtand how Things are carry'd. 'Tis not long ſince a Difference happen'd in the Canton of *Glaris*, which *France* firſt kindl'd, and fomented to the utmoſt of her Power; but *Innocent* the XI. quickly ſtifl'd it, by his Wiſdom and Piety.

I am convinc'd that thoſe Perſons are deeply ſenſible of the Affronts which *France* puts upon 'em from time to time, and with what Scorn ſhe treats their Embaſſadours, the laſt of which, were forc'd to return without being able to procure Audience of the King, after ſedulous Applications to *Colbert Croiſy*, Secretary of State for the Foreign Affairs. But the more prudent ſort of Switzers, you'll ſay, would fain have the Lyon chain'd, and his Claws par'd before they fall upon him. To which I Anſwer, That the Switzers may contribute very much toward the Chaining of the Lyon, as furious as he ſeems to be, and yet not openly declare themſelves neither; by demanding the diſmantling of *Huningben*, and for want of ſo doing, by recalling their Men out of *France*, which compoſe the greateſt part of the French Infantry, and are the only

Com-

Combatants well ſeconded by the Cavalry, upon which the French depend for all their Succeſs. The King of *France* is now Convinc'd of the Value of the Switzers, and ſo has been, ever ſince *Louvois*'s Miniſtry. Formerly they were not well belov'd at Court, nay, they were contemn'd; but ſince the Alteration of the Face of Affairs, they are at preſent conſider'd, for the Benefit which *France* receives from 'em, like Twins that are ty'd together, and muſt dye together. I muſt confeſs that the Eſtabliſhment of the Swiſs Regiments is worth ſome Money to that Nation, and diſcharges the Country of abundance of idle lazy People: but I'll maintain it, that the French Service is the Plague and Deſtruction of vaſt numbers of Young Men of Good Proteſtant Families that ruine themſelves by the Debaucheries of Wine and Women, which always terminates in a Revolt againſt their Religion and their Country. Which would never happen, if they ſerv'd the Proteſtant Princes. The Court of *France* knows well that ſhe cannot faſten an Officer of Quality to her Intereſts with a ſtronger Tye, ſo as to make him abſolutely forget his own Country, then by the Change of his Religion. And therefore ſhe Labours underhand by means of the Women and Monks; and thoſe Snares take Effect with the greateſt part that are attack'd

tack'd by those Vermin, as was seen by the Example of the Two *Stoupa's*.

Not to reckon the more Inferiour Sort, all the Swiss Officers and Soldiers, as well those that serve in *France*, as those that are sent to the Mines in *Sweden*, I look upon 'em equally lost both to their Families and their Country; for they never return again, unless they make their Escapes by some sort of Stratagem: but it may be said, that the Pleasure and Voluptuousness of *France* is so great, that they are pleas'd with their Misfortune. There they are bred, and there they dye, to make room for other New Commers, who are Tempted thither like Young Pigeons with the smell of Roasted Dogs.

France has had no place from whence to supply her self during this War, but the Swiss Cantons: Some Seamen she may get indeed from the North: but for Land-Soldiers, of necessity it behoves her to caress and embrace the Helvetian Body, without whose Assistance the French would never be able to bring such Numerous Armies into the Field: And the Switzers are the Only Persons upon which the King of *France* may depend, so long as he keeps his Word with 'em, and that he pays 'em what he contracts for, and what he promises. Nor

will they ſtand to the Loſſes of his enhauncing and re-inhauncing his Money. They muſt have their Money pay'd according to the old value ſet down and agreed upon in ther Contracts; that is to ſay, the Louidores at Eleven Livres; and the White Crowns at Sixty Sols. For the Switzers are thrifty Husbands, and ſend a good part of their Pay to their Parents in *Switzerland*, where there is no Variation of the Coin admitted.

Now it being ſo certain, as I have already ſaid, that *France* ſtands in need of the Switzers in this Conjuncture, this is the reaſon that the French Embaſſadour reſiding in *Switzerland*, has Orders not to diſguſt 'em, nor give 'em the leaſt Subject of Complaint, but in every Canton to careſs all thoſe in particular who have the beſt Intereſt, and carry the greateſt Sway; on purpoſe to prevent 'em from entring into a more ſtrict Alliance with the Houſe of *Auſtria*, the King of *Great Britain*, and the States of the United Provinces. For which reaſon it was that the French Miniſter us'd all his Power and Intereſt to ſtop the Levies which M. *Cox*, the King of *Great Britain*'s Envoy would have rais'd not long ago. But if the Buſineſs did not then ſucceed, *France* is beholding for it to the want of Management in thoſe that underſtood not the right knack of dealing

with

with the *Switzers*, seeing afterwards others found the way to discover the forward Inclinations of that Nation toward the Confederates, by the Levies that were made underhand, which is a terrible Blow to *France*, in regard that those new Regiments draw away a Great Number of their fellow Country-men out of the French Service, especially the *Protestants*. However, we do not find that *France* dares to make any great noise about it, moderating and restraining her Passion, till a more propitious Opportunity: but in regard the Cantons on the other side may be assur'd that she Barrels it up, and that if at present they escape Scot-free, yet whenever it lies in her Power, *France* will never forget such heinous Provocations; therefore 'tis now the Switzers Interests to labour with the rest, the humbling *France*, now the Confederates are following her so close at the Heels. For the Lower *France* is brought, the more the French will caress the Switzers, and seek their Assistance; whereas in their Prosperity they slight and domineer over 'em, and would utterly subdue 'em, were it in the Power of the Court of *France*, that resembles Fire or the Sea, which never will acknowledge they have enough. But at present the Policy of the Ministers prompts em, as the wisest Course, to temporize, and to oppose whatever is transacted to

the Prejudice of *France*, rather by Remonſtrances and Preſents, then by Force and Menaces.

As for the *Turks*, they have been all along Enemies of Chriſt and the *Chriſtians*; becauſe the Goſpel deſtroys their *Alcaron*. The *Sultan* takes upon him the Title of *Muſulman*, or *Moſt Faithful*, as the King of *France* aſſumes the Title of *Moſt Chriſtian*. Yet we know, that the Turkiſh Emperours have eſtabliſh'd their Dominion by Cruelty only, and that their Throne is ſoder'd together with the Blood of a Great Number of Martyrs, and an Infinite number of all ſorts of People and Nations; yet notwithſtanding all this, the *Turk* is at preſent the ſole Refuge of *France*, and ſhe embraces him as her only Patron: She is enter'd into a ſtrict Alliance with the Ottoman Port; furniſhes him with Money, Cannon, and other Warlike Ammunition; ſupplies him with Able and Expert Officers and Engineers, to the great damage of the *Chriſtians*. And which was more pernicious, the Policy of the Court of *France* exerted it ſelf to that degree, as to perſuade the *Turk* to break the Truce with the *Chriſtians*, two Years before it came to be expir'd, meerly to ſupport the Rebellion of the *Hungarians*, who according to the Opinion of the Miniſters of *France*, were to contribute toward the Ruine of the Empire and Emperour of the *Chriſtians*. Had the Biſhop of *Pereſixe* been living at this time, he muſt have been

been forc'd to have recanted what he asserted in his History of *Henry* IV. Where he says, *That the Valour of the French was made choice of by God, to support the Christian Religion.* Seeing that the Court of *France* labours nothing more earnestly then to destroy the same Religion. She never minds whether or no the *Turks* change the Churches into Mosquees, or set up the Standard of *Mahomet* above the Cross of Christ, provided her Monarch satisfie his Ambition and become Master of the Empire.

Tho' the *Turks* are People both Barbarous and altogether Infidels, nevertheless they observe this Maxim, never to abandon those that put themselves under their Protection, and to keep their Words and Promises; and this is one of the Points of their Law. And therefore it is, that they acknowledge that all the Misfortunes and Losses which they have sustain'd during this War, have proceeded from their Breach of Faith and Truce. And this it was which spurr'd 'em on about two Years ago to send their Envoys to *Vienna*, with Offers of Peace to the Emperour. Which hotly alarum'd the Court of *France*; but she, being Subtle and Crafty, took an Occasion to insinuate into the *Turks*, That they might continue the War without any Scruple of Conscience, seeing they had offer'd Peace to the Emperour, that he had refus'd it, and contino'd his Hostilities against them; That now the *Turks*

were to look upon the War as purely defensive on their side; and the French Embassadour at the Port, understood so well by Considerable Presents to gain the Grand *Mufti* to his side, who is the Oracle of the Ottoman Court and consulted in all Cases of Conscience, that the Infidel Pontiff embrac'd the French Divinity, and made it out to the *Sultan* and the People, after the Return of the Envoys, that they might continue the War without any scruple, and that their Submission to the *Christians*, was a sufficient Expiation for the Crime they had committed. Nor is it a difficult thing to persuade the *Turks* to these Things, who naturally hate the *Christians*, and are easily induc'd to undertake their Destruction, and so Self-interested, as readily to yield to the Temptations of Presents. Moreover their Extraordinary Inclination and their Interest to recover *Hungary* which they have lost, persuades 'em without any Reluctancy to embrace the Proposals of the Court of *France*, and to renew the League between 'em from time to time, upon the Assurances, Promises, and Oaths of the French Embassadour, that his Master will make no Peace with the Emperour, wherein the *Turk* shall not be comprehended. And yet all the World knows how earnestly the Ministers of *France* sollicit the Confederates to make a Peace without mentioning the *Turk* in the least: and it was an Argument of the French at *Rome* to spur up

the

the Pope, that a Peace would give the Emperour great Advantages, and ſtrengthen him to carry on his Conqueſts to the very Walls of *Conſtantinople* (for which *France* would not be a little Sorry.) But when theſe Projects of *France* were made known at the Ottoman Court, and that the Grand Viſier upbraided the Embaſſour with 'em, he appeas'd the Prime Miniſter by telling him, That what the Court of *France* had done in reſpect to that Affair, was only to deceive his Enemies, and to amuſe 'em with Frivolous Offers, on purpoſe to put a ſtop to their Preparations againſt the next Campaign, and to make the People the more unwilling to contribute toward the War. It may be, ſome Perſons well affected to *France*, take this to be a Calumny, and will not believe that the Moſt Chriſtian King perſuaded the *Turk* to break with the *Chriſtians*. But to convince 'em, I ſhall here inſert what paſt at the *Pyrenean* Treaty, where *Lewis* XIV. eſpous'd the Infanta of *Spain*, renounc'd all the Pretenſions which that Princeſs might have to *Spain* or the Low-Countries, and conſented with an Oath, *That if ever he Pretended to what he had renounced, that his Pretenſion ſhould be accounted Null and Void, and that if he proceeded to force of Arms, he beſought all Princes and Free States* (obſerve the Expreſſions) *to repute it unlawful, unjuſt, and wickedly attempted, a Piece of Tyrannical Uſurpation againſt Reaſon and Conſcience.*

This Proteſtation is to be met with in the Sixth Article of the Renunciation of the King of *France* belonging to the *Pyreneaan* Treaty in the Year 1660. Nevertheleſs, we have ſeen how *Lewis* XIV. brake this Peace ſo ſolemnly ſworn in a few Years afterwards, immediately upon the death of *Philip* IV. King of *Spain*, on purpoſe to renew the renounc'd Pretenſions of his Queen, which have ſince coſt ſo much Chriſtian Blood, and ſtill are like to coſt more before the Concluſion of the War.

Theſe Things being conſider'd, all Men muſt be convinc'd, that *France* fomented the War in *Hungary*, that ſhe encourag'd the Turks to beſiege *Vienna*, that ſhe deſign'd the Dethroning of the Emperour, and to have ſet up her Monarch *Lewis the Great*, in his Place. But ſhe met with many Diſappointments. The Great Victories of the *Chriſtians*, the Conqueſt of Upper and Lower *Hungary*, but above all, the Taking of *Belgrade*, together with the frequent Revolutions in the Ottoman Court, ranvers'd all the Affairs of that Empire: and then it was that all the Perſuaſions, nor all the Promiſes nor Preſents of the French could make any Impreſſion upon the Turks; all the Policy of the Court of *France* was reduc'd to this laſt Shift, which was to perſuade the Ottoman Port to continue the War but one Campaign more, and then if the Face of Affairs did not alter, but that their Misfortunes continu'd, ſhe would

would consent to a Truce such as the Turks should think fit to make. This Expedient wrought well for the French: For in the Year 1690. the Infidels re-took *Belgrade* by Assault, which puff'd 'em up to a high degree. Nor was it then a difficult thing to persuade 'em that their Misfortunes were at an end, that Heaven was now going to punish the Emperour for refusing the Peace which they had offer'd him; and that to second this happy beginning, the King his Master or the Dauphin (who was call'd the *Young Sultan* at the Port) would come in Person with a numerous Army, and make a Considerable Diversion upon the *Rhine*. But in regard the Turks have never yet seen any Effects of these Mighty Promises, the French Embassadour is forc'd from time to time, to bear the Brunt of most bloody Reproaches from the Lips of the Grand Visier, and to endure many a rugged Storm without going to Sea. And the least affront put upon him is that of *Dog*; *That his Master is a man of no Faith, and worse then a* Christian; *and that if he does not keep his Word for the future, the Port will make a Truce with the Emperour, and leave him to himself.* But these are Reprimands which the French never boast of; and the Embassadour has Flegm enough to stay till the Tempest be over, and never to return to the Charge with his Flamms and Excuses, till the first firing be over, and that the Grand Visier's

Fury be abated; and then with new Preſents he makes freſh Promiſes, and like the Children, promiſes to do better next time. A ſad Conjuncture for a Monarch, who believes himſelf to be the firſt and greateſt in the World, and ranks himſelf like *Philip* of *Macedon* and *Alexander the Great*, in the Number of the Gods, to be forc'd to ſuch mean Submiſſions, and to ſuffer continual Affronts and Reproaches from an Infidel, to preſerve the Friendſhip and Aſſiſtance of the Turks. But this is now the Depth of the Policy of *France*, rather to Cringe and Creep, and become a kind of Tributary to the Ottoman Port, then to make Reſtitution of what he has uſurp'd from the *Chriſtians*: rather to allow Liberty of Conſcience to the *Turks* then to the *Huguenots*. And this I have been aſſur'd, that *Chaſteauneuf*, the French Embaſſadour, not knowing one day which way to appeaſe the Grand Viſier, offer'd him that Liberty in his Maſters Name, and that he ſhould give leave to the *Turks* to erect Moſquees at *Tholoun* and *Marſeilles*. The ſame Offers have alſo been made to the Governour of *Algiers* in any place of *Bretaigne* that he ſhould make choice of, provided he would ſend his Men of War into St. *George*'s Channel to rob the Engliſh and Hollanders. And if theſe Offers did not take Effect, 'twas becauſe the Grand Signior ſtood in need of the *Algerines* to ſerve againſt the *Venetians*, and re-inforce

his

his Fleet in the *Levant*. Nevertheleſs, theſe Offers fail'd not to work with the Grand Mufti, who like the Romiſh Eccleſiaſticks, loves the Propagation of his Faith and the Free Exerciſe of his Religion; and who being ſweeten'd up withall, by ſome Conſiderable Preſent openly declar'd for the French *Sultan*. But as ſubmiſſive as *France* is yet a while to her Ally, that ſhe may preſerve his Friendſhip, you ſhall ſee that he will leave him in the Lurch, and deliver him up a Prey to the Emperour, ſo ſoon as he can find a way to make Peace with the Confederates. And then that Separation would infallibly beget a War between the two Sultans, were the *Turk* in a condition to revenge himſelf. However his want of Strength to commence a War will not hinder him from loading the French Merchants that reſide in his Dominions with Terrible Oppreſſions; and ſo the poor Merchants muſt pay for the Infidelity of their Monarch. But the Court of *France* never troubles her Head about That, provided ſhe can but compaſs her own Ends. And for the Obtaining of thoſe, ſhe will never Spare for the Blood or Eſtates of her own Subjects, nor did ſhe ever value the Lives and Liberties of ſo many poor *Chriſtians* as have been ſacrific'd during this War with the *Turk*, to the Ambition of *Lewis the Great*.

But we are now aſcending if we can, to the Pinacle of French Policy, ſo high that few or

none can reach it; that is to say, the Depopulation of *France*, and consequently the Ruine of the Kingdom for Religion's sake. For it is well known that the *Protestants* of *France* have always made a Considerable Body of that Realm, and tho' they have been Persecuted and Massacred under divers Reigns, more-especially in the Reigns of *Charles* IX. and *Henry* III. nevertheless they have still reviv'd again and considerably encreas'd their Number; yet always faithfully devoted to the Service of their Soveraign: and that Fidelity obtain'd all those Edicts of Pacification and Liberty of Conscience, which were granted 'em by *Henry* IV. and *Lewis* XIII. For as the Historians themselves confess, the *Huguenots* were the Men that fix'd the Crowns upon the Heads of *Henry* IV. and his Offspring *Lewis* XIII. and *Lewis* XIV. now Reigning, whose Crown, when he was Young and in his Minority, the First Prince of the Blood would have wrested from him, pretending that the Succession belong'd to him by Right of Birth after the Death of *Lewis* the XIII. openly asserting his Claim as well by word of Mouth as publick Manifesto's, at the Time of the *Parisian Barricado's*. Nor could the King himself forbear to give Truth her due, in several Declarations and Edicts, and by Letters written to the *Protestant* Princes. And indeed so Signal a Piece of Service, and a Devotion so faithful to the Person of this Monarch gave the

Protestants

Protestants all the Encouragement in the World to hope for an Irrevocable Protection, and an Enlargement of their Liberties & Assurance of Safety both for themselves and their Posterity, not only during the Reign of this King, but also of his Successours. Nevertheless, notwithstanding all these Signal Services, they only obtain'd the Title of *Faithful Subjects*, which the King affected to bestow upon 'em in all his Edicts and Declarations. Nay their Fidelity was so disserviceable to 'em as to create nothing but Fears and Jealousies in the Prime Ministers and Courtiers; and augmented the Natural Hatred of the Jesuits, who all together from that time forward meditated nothing more then to abase and ruine the Protestant Party, and inspir'd into the Young Prince distrustful Sentiments of those to whom he was beholding for his Crown; perswading him, that if the *Huguenots* were so powerful as to settle him in his Throne, they would be able at another time to throw him down again whenever he refus'd 'em any Privilege which they demanded. These Disturbers of the Repose of *France* having thus found the Monarch dispos'd and inclin'd to follow their pernicious Counsels, the Jesuits, Directors of the Prince's Conscience, fail'd not to improve those Sentiments so Opposite to his Real Interests and his Promis'd Faith; and for the Expiation of some Great Sin, impos'd upon him, by way of doing Pennance, the cancelling some Privileges granted to the *Protestants* by the King his Predecessours, and with an Oath confirm'd by

the

the Reigning Prince. And as it is usual for Scorn to degenerate into Hatred, the King having lay'd a Design to ruin the *United Provinces*, thought it then high time to begin with the Destruction of the *Protestants* of his Kingdom. And then it was that every Body study'd who should be most forward to second the Bloody Design of their Soveraign, and to invent new Torments for the more quick dispatch of the *Great Work*, as the Court of *France* call'd it: and the King himself could not refrain himself from saying, That he would have the satisfaction, in his Life-time, of having the Honour to destroy Heresie, and that he had rather leave the Dauphin a Beggarly, then Heretical Kingdom; and thus enflam'd, Men, Women, Children, Monks and Ministers of State, all cry'd out, *To the Sack, to the Sack with the Churches of the* Huguenots; and every one according to his Power lent a willing hand to the Diabolical Work. Madam *de Maintenon*, an Old Female Sinner, was the Jesuits faithful and sedulous She-Intelligencer, who for that purpose held their Cabals both day and night: the Marquis of *Louvois* sent away the Dragoons into the Provinces, and St. *Ruth* put in Execution with great delight the Cruel Orders that were dispatch'd from Court, and recommended to his Executioners and Hangmen the Care of tormenting the poor Creatures with all sorts of Barbarism and Cruelty. And while this Tragedy was acting in the several Provinces, the Chancellor *Tellier*, sent forth Declaration upon Declaration

tion

tion against the *Proteſtants*, and iſſu'd out the Revocation of all their Edicts, Privileges and Liberties, with ſo much Satisfaction, that as he was ſealing the Revocation of the Edict of *Nants*, he could not forbear declaring, *That it was the greateſt Bleſſing that ever overjoy'd him in his Life, and that he could be content, after he had ſeen that happy Day, to dye*; and he was ſo impious as upon that Bloody occaſion to repeat the Song of *Simeon*: and indeed God took him at his word: for within a few days after he deliver'd *France* from that ſame Monſter of Men. However the Perſecution did not ceaſe with the Life of that Miniſter, who left very good Diſciples behind him: for that Father *La Chaiſe*, finding one day the King in a Good Humour, obtain'd an Order from him for a General Maſſacre of the *Huguenots* all over *France*, grounding his Perſuaſions upon the Conſtancy of ſome of 'em, with whom the Priſons and Convents were cramm'd; and upon the Hypocriſie of the New Converts, who when Opportunity ſerved, would be as ſo many Enemies within the Kingdom, and that therefore there wanted a little Blood-letting to cure the Miſchief. And if this Order were not put in Execution, the *Proteſtants* were beholding to the Two Firſt Princes of the Blood, *Condé* and *Conti*, who took it out of Father *La Chaiſe*'s Hands, and return'd it to the King. This Perſecution, which produc'd nothing but Hypocrites and forc'd Catholicks, conſtrain'd a vaſt number of People to quit *France*, and retire with

with their Effects into Foreign Countries, contrary to the Expectation of the Court, and the Policy of the King and his Miniſters, who never intended to diſpeople the Kingdom, as the Spaniards did their Country, by expelling the Moors: and for fear of falling into the ſame Blunder again, they committed another as bad: ſetting forth Rigorous Prohibitions, forbidding all People to ſtir out of the Kingdom, guarding the Paſſes, and ordering all to be brought back Priſoners that ſhould be taken upon the Frontiers, and filling the Priſons, Convents and Galleys with their Captives, which was very near the ſame thing as expelling 'em the Kingdom.

All this ſo barbarous and unheard-of Uſage was premeditated, however, notwithſtanding the outward ſhew of Piety, to be ſerviceable to the King's Deſign, as having been for ſome Years contriving the Utter Ruin of the *Proteſtants*: and therefore rightly judging that the Potentates their Confederates would never conſent to their Deſtruction, in regard their Downfall would only ſerve to aggrandize *France*, and augment her Strength in order to the carrying the whole Univerſe before Her; therefore the Policy of the Court of *France* very ſillily believ'd that the Perſecution of the *Huguenots* would draw all the *Catholicks* into her Snares which ſhe had thus baited with her Pretended Zeal. But the ſame *Catholicks* being more diſcreet and wary, and well acquainted with the Tricks and Fineſſes of *France*, compar'd the French Zeal to Crocodiles Tears, that weep to drill Paſſengers within their reach, and then darting themſelves upon their Prey, ſeize and devour it. Nay, the Pope himſelf ſmelt out the Cheat, and did all that lay in his Power to oppoſe it; as was apparently ſeen by the Buſineſs of *Furſtenberg*.

But tho' the Event has ſhew'd us that *France* was miſtaken in her Calculation, yet ſhe ſtill goes on with her Proſecutions of the *Proteſtants*, tho' leſs at one time then another, in regard that 'tis the beſt way for Princes to

go

go through with Follies begun, and for that the King's meaning was to make all *Europe* believe, that he had no other End then to make Proſelytes, and to propagate the Catholick Religion, which is a thing that moſt prudent and moderate Perſons of the ſame Religion could never perceive by what is paſt, nor diſcover in any Proſpect of Futurity. Nor has the King of *France* procur'd the leaſt Advantage to the Roman Church by his Oppreſſions within his Kingdom, or by his perſuading and inveigling the Duke of *Savoy* to perſecute the *Vaudois* with the ſame Severity; quite contrary to the Sentiments of *Innocent* XI. who openly diſapprov'd Violence in Matters of Religion, and who could not forbear ſaying, That at the ſame time that the French Embaſſadour made Bonfires at *Rome*, and rejoyc'd for the Deſtruction of the French *Huguenots*, That his Heart bled Tears of Blood: foreſeeing that all thoſe Forc'd Converſions would one day prove extreamly Prejudicial to the Church: and that the King of *France* did but diſpoil himſelf of the Lovely Robe of Primitive Charity, to put on the Old Rags of Paganiſm, dy'd with the Blood of ſo many Martyrs.

Moreover theſe abominable Proceedings of *France* have only ſerv'd to render the *Catholicks* ſuſpected to the *Proteſtants*, and to beget a Scorn and Hatred of 'em in Places where before they liv'd together in Brotherly Love and good Correſpondence.

But what is more Conſiderable, and for which *Rome* and all the *Catholicks* will have juſt Reaſon eternally to reproach *France*, and complain of her Monarch *Lewis* XIV. is this, That he preferr'd the Advancement of *Mahometiſm* before the Support and Preſervation of the *Catholick* Religion in *England*, quite ruin'd by the Dethroning of King *James*, whom he forſook in his Greateſt Neceſſity; more eſpecially ſeeing that unfortunate Prince had never fallen into ſuch an Abyſs of Miſery, had he not follow'd the Pernicious Counſels of his

Confederate who incens'd him to perſecute his Subjects in *England*, as he had done his own in *France*; and to alter the Religion and Laws of his Realm, to ſerve the Intereſts and Deſigns of *France*.

But the Engliſh, more Prudent and Circumſpect then the French, foreſeeing the Tempeſt that began to gather already over their Heads; and of which the Conſequences could not but produce a Shipwrack, like to that which had ſwallow'd up the *Proteſtants* of *France*, ſeeing that the Dragoons began already to croſs over out of *France* into *England*, where there was a Father *Peters* animated with the ſame prepoſterous Zeal as Father *La Chaiſe*; and a Chancellor *Jefferies* no leſs wicked and bloody then *Tellier* or *Louvois*; the Engliſh, I ſay, beholding the Scaffolds erected, and the Fires juſt ready to be kindl'd, withdrew themſelves in time from the Yoke that *France* was preparing for their Necks; and by that Reſolution for ever daſh'd the vain-glorious Hopes of all the Engliſh Catholicks.

In ſhort, the King of *France* has great Reaſon to repent of Two Things; his Perſecution of the *Proteſtants* of his Kingdom, and his laſt Siege of *Philipsburgh*. For that thoſe two Things were the Original Cauſe of the War, and the Baſis of all the Calamities with which *France* is at preſent overwhelm'd; and which daily augment beyond any Help or Remedy, which all the Policy of that Court, all the Wiles, the Artifices and Knavery of her Miniſters, and all the Bigotry of her Male and Female Hypocrites can apply to ſtop their ſpreading, or prevent the ſame [illegible] from befalling the Reign of *Lewis* the Great as [illegible] *Epiphanes* or, *The Illuſtrious*: there being ſo great a Uniformity in their Manner of Acting, the Beginning and Progreſs of their Atchievements, that [illegible] great Reaſon to hope, that their *Exits* will be [illegible]

FINIS.